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Farm Outlook

JANUARY 1957



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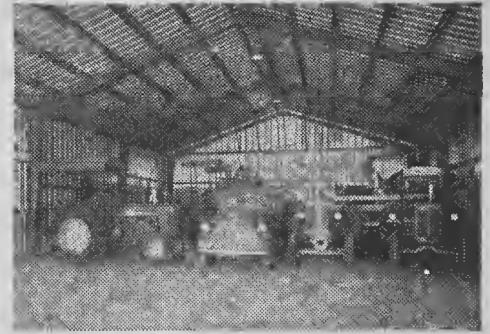
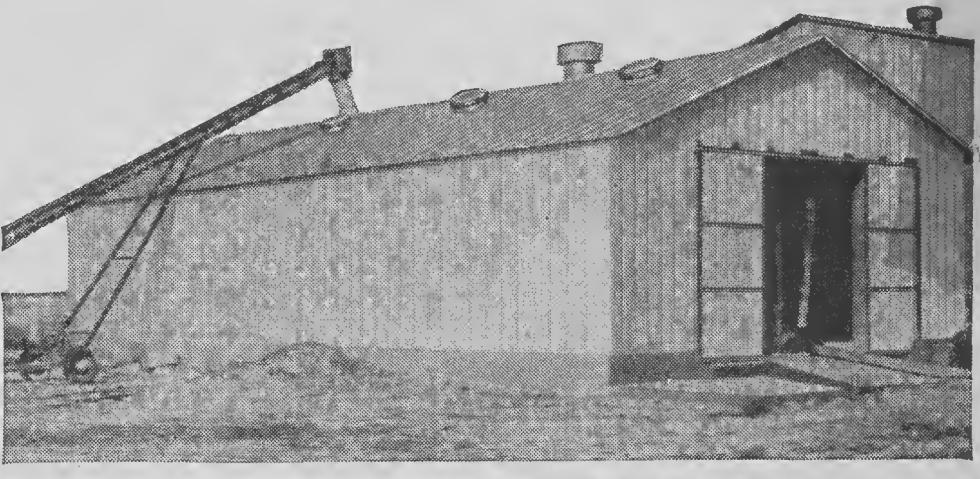
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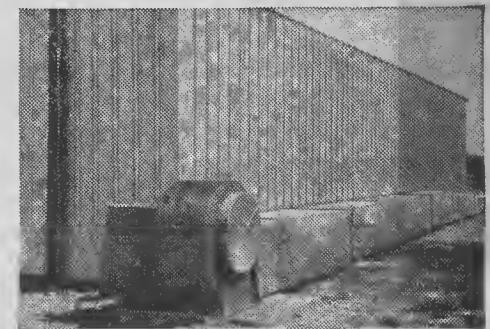
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THE *Country* GUIDE

From Cover to Cover
JANUARY, 1957

Weather Forecast—by Dr. Irving P. Krick and Associates	4
Under the Peace Tower—by Hugh Boyd	14
Editorials	50

ARTICLES

Has Farming Turned a Corner?—by H. S. Fry	9
Looking Ahead Through 1957	10
Recovery in Sight—by E. C. Hope	12
Science and the Farm	7
Return to Yesterday—by C. V. Faulknor	28
Co-operative Machinery Group	29
Comfort on the Combine	47
Substitute for Corn Silage	47
Western Herefords on this Ontario Ranch	49

FICTION

Love Is for the Living—by Alec Rackow	13
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FARM

Farm Notes	6
Get It At a Glance	15
Livestock	16
Field	18
Horticulture	20
Workshop	21
Poultry	22
What's New	23
Young People	24

HOME

The Countrywoman—by Amy J. Roe	35
Clothes for Children—by Phyllis A. Thomson	36
Oven Meals	38
Tea Companions—by Angela Field	39
Needlework	41
Willowdale	42
Meat Cookbook	42
Story for Young People	42
January Sewing (Patterns)	43
The Country Boy and Girl	44
Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors—No. 59—by Clarence Tillenius	44

COVER: Our cover picture this month, by H. Armstrong Roberts, is very timely, at least. It is also unusual, though, of course, many a rabbit has escaped detection by appearing only at the right time. On the other hand, you may think the picture a fake. So do we, but it gives us the chance to wish that you may be as free from worry in 1957, as this rabbit.

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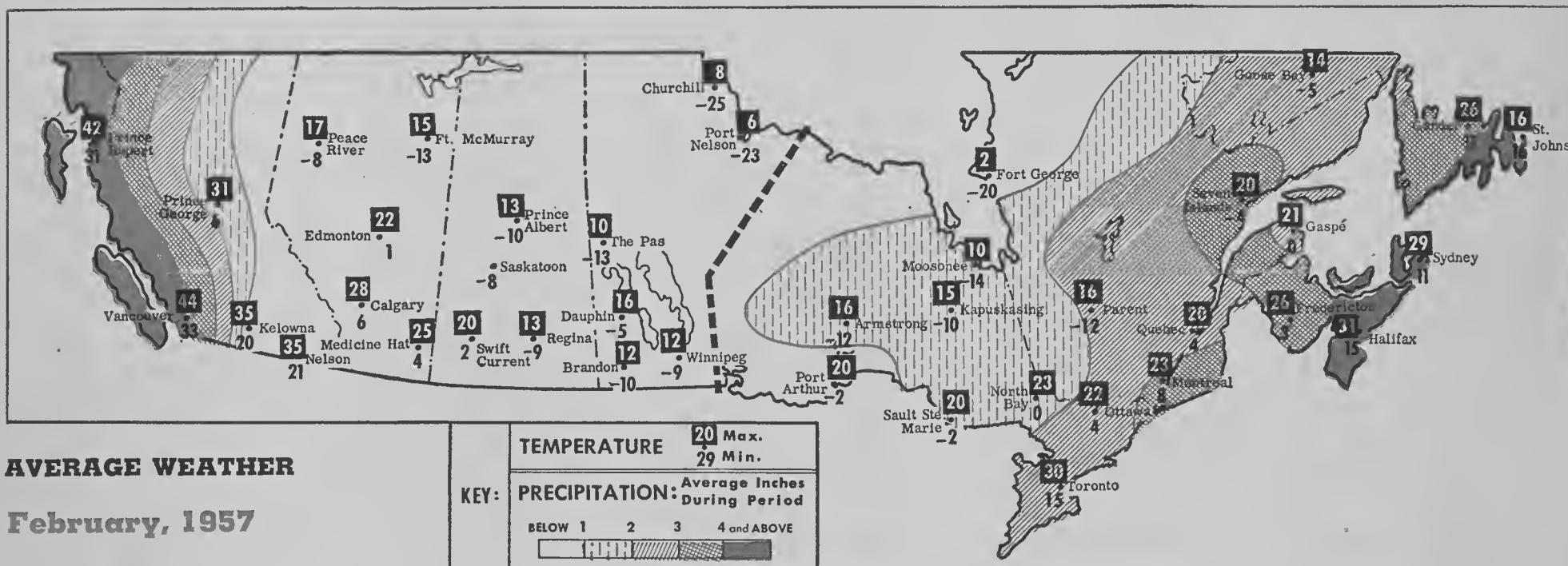
SUBSCRIPTION PRICES IN CANADA—50 cents one year; \$1.00 two years; \$2.00 five years;
\$3.00 eight years. Outside Canada \$1.00 per year.
Single copies 5 cents. Authorized by the Postmaster-General, Ottawa, Canada, for transmission as second-class mail matter.

Published and printed by THE PUBLIC PRESS LIMITED, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, Man.
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Weather Forecast

Prepared by
DR. IRVING P. KRICK
and Associates

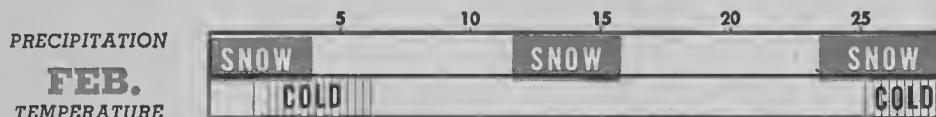
(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast.
It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but
not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



Alberta

Cold Arctic air will make its appearance during the first week of the month, when even daytime temperatures will not rise above the zero value on at least two or three days. This early month cold spell will be accompanied by several days of snowfall. Although not warm, there will be a trend toward rising temperatures as mid-month approaches, but this will be halted by a minor stormy period around the 12th. Temperatures will

tend to cluster around the normal values during mid-month and continue in that pattern until around the 25th. Around that time storminess is expected and will be followed by cold air moving southward from the Arctic region. The last few days of February will once again return to the cold temperature values which ushered in the month. A minor stormy interval around mid-month will keep temperature readings from skyrocketing to the warm "chinook" of the early fall. V



Saskatchewan

An abrupt change to snowy and cold weather is expected early in February as cold Arctic air once again pushes down into the Prairie Provinces. However, temperatures should moderate rather quickly following this cold period and begin rising . . . with highest temperatures for the month being reached around the 10th, as a warm, moist flow of air invades the province from the south. Thereafter, until the last few days of the month,

near seasonal temperatures can be expected, with only short "staccato-like" daily fluctuations. A return to much colder weather is expected as February draws to a close. Most important snowfall dates are centered around the first week of the month and again during the last four or five days.

A word of caution—the mid-month snowy period could be especially productive in the extreme southern half of Saskatchewan, as warm moist air is expected to precede this storm. V



Manitoba

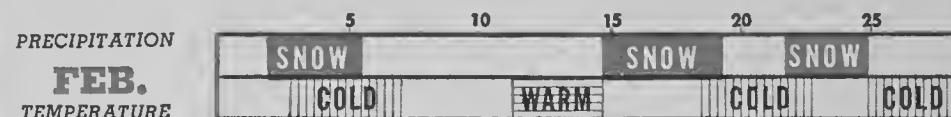
With frequent invasions of cold air, the month as a whole, will be characterized by the absence of repeated and prolonged warming intervals. The 16th through 20th cold period should send low night-time temperatures back down to the 20 below mark. Cold days expected during the first week in the month should not be overlooked though—and low temperatures will be 10 to 20 degrees below the seasonal values. The southwestern corner of

Manitoba should be "nipped" by snowy weather during the first few days of the month, but the bulk of the monthly snowfall will occur during the February 15 to 18 stormy period. Indicated storm tracks do not favor heavy snowfall in the eastern half, and nothing important in the north. A brief respite from wintry weather, coupled with the warming trend indicated around the 11th or 12th, should provide scattered opportunities for livestock to winter pasture. V



Ontario

The last few days of January should not be used as an indication of February weather . . . another wintry blast is expected during the early days of February. However, this early-month storm period will be minor and followed by gradual warming . . . temperatures rising to the highest values of the month on the few days prior to the 15th. Around mid-month an abrupt change in the weather pattern will bring truly winter weather to Ontario,



Quebec

Look for colder than seasonal temperatures during February throughout most of Quebec—certainly a marked change from weather conditions during January. The first important invasion of cold air is expected around the 5th, and this should be sufficiently intense to influence the entire province for several days, setting the stage for a generally cold month. Another significant cold air mass will pass southward around the 20th and will



Maritime Provinces

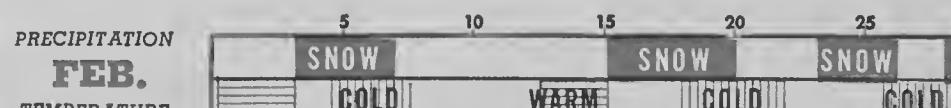
An unusually wet February is in prospect, with frequent and persistent cold air invasions. This adds up to another rather "bleak" outlook for the Maritime Provinces. A day or two of warm weather during the first few days of February will be followed by an abrupt change, as winter, accompanied by snow and cold temperatures, makes a repeated visit around the 5th or 6th. Thereafter, only slow recovery in temperatures will be

and will be followed by February's coldest weather . . . centered around the 20th. Temperatures should dip far below zero . . . most severe in the eastern half of the province. No real warming should be expected with temperatures turning downward again during the last three or four days.

A great contrast in snowfall accumulation should be noted during February . . . next-to-nothing in the northwest, contrasted with considerable accumulation in the southeast. V

certainly top the temperatures to near record lows in the St. Lawrence Valley. Temperatures are expected to recover briefly from the unusually cold periods around the 13th or 14th, but even so, pronounced warming is not expected.

Only two intervals during the month should produce significant snowfalls, especially in the western half. The major snowfall accumulation should occur during the stormy period centered around the 16th or 17th. V



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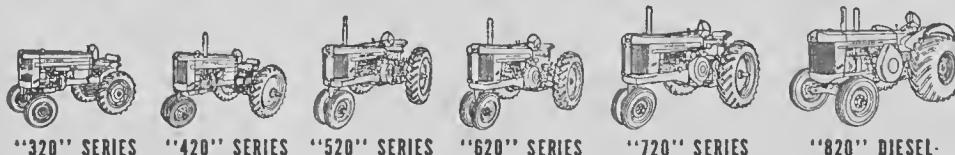
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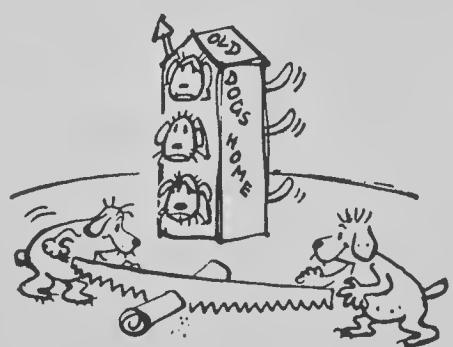
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FARM NOTES



[Guide photo]
H. J. Schmidt (left), director of Toronto Milk Producers' Co-operative, with Fred Harrison, general manager of the co-op plant, at the annual meeting.

Why Rust Attack Was Light

CONDITIONS were suitable for the development of cereal rust in 1956, but very little developed in western Canada. The plant diseases committee of the Manitoba Agronomists gives two main reasons for this. Firstly, there were few rust spores in the air, largely because of a severe drought throughout Texas during the winter and spring of 1956, which virtually destroyed the small grain crop in southern and central parts of the state, and very little rust inoculum was produced there. As a result, the spore content of the air over the winter wheat area was low, and comparatively little rust reached Canada. The second reason was the use of rust-resistant varieties over large areas in the north-central United States, and in the eastern part of the Canadian prairies. Selkirk wheat was a major factor in helping to protect western areas from rust. V

Danger In the Silo

"SILOFILLER'S disease" is a serious, and perhaps fatal, respiratory disorder resulting from breathing the gas of fermenting silage. Many farmers are aware of the danger of entering a newly filled silo, but in the experience of the Health League of Canada, few realize the full extent of the danger, and some are prepared to take the risk anyway.

The pattern of the disease starts with coughing, difficulty in breathing, a choking sensation and severe weakness immediately after exposure. These symptoms continue to some degree for three weeks, and then become progressively worse, with the addition of chills, fever and blueness of the skin. Eventually, the tiny air sacs of the lungs become closed by the ingrowth of the wall tissue.

The discovery of the disease and the forms it takes results from the work of Dr. Thomas Lowry and Dr. Leonard Schuman of the University of Minnesota and Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis.

Antibiotics and other standard treatments for respiratory diseases had no effect on the symptoms, when the Minnesota team treated four cases, but

prednisone, a hormone related to hydrocortisone, was successful in two of the cases. They state that the prevention of the disease is simple—allow no one to enter a silo for any purpose from the time filling begins until seven to ten days after it is finished. Also provide good ventilation around the base of the silo during this danger period, and fence the area to keep children and animals away. A blower fan should always be run before anyone enters a silo. V

Beef Grade Changes Proposed

A REVISED grade schedule for beef was approved by the executive of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture recently, as follows: Choice (red brand)—no change in grade standards except to eliminate a few of the fatter carcasses. Good (blue brand)—including present blue brand carcasses, plus the best of the present commercial grade. Medium (silver brand)—including medium steers and heifers below good. Commercial (brown brand) — including young fleshy cows and overfats; and finally utility grade.

The schedule was prepared in the expectation that the Canada Department of Agriculture would be calling a meeting of all groups concerned to seek an agreement on the grading question. V

New View Of Scrapie Disease

SCRAPIE, the sheep disease, may be inherited rather than spread by infection, according to an article appearing in "The Lancet," a British medical journal. This would mean, it says, that it would be difficult to sustain the view that any breed of sheep or any country was entirely free from scrapie. It is also unlikely that any country which has derived its sheep stocks from western Europe over the last two centuries would be entirely free from all types of the disease, if it is inherited.

The report claims that scrapie may be a muscular disease rather than a disease of the brain, and mentions the discovery of "a hitherto unrecorded spontaneous degeneration of the skeletal muscle in the adult sheep." V

Science And the Farm

Quick freezing has been used successfully to keep tissues alive for extended periods. Skin from a rabbit's ear has been transplanted after four months in a freezer. The male sex glands in rats have been grafted after the glands had been stored frozen for 22 weeks. Quick frozen lungs have been transplanted from one dog to another. The joker in all such grafts is that to be successful they must be from the subject's own body, or an identical twin. V

Housewives keep potatoes white after peeling, by putting them into water immediately. This is impracticable in restaurants and large eating places, with the result that potatoes are often a brownish-grey color. A Cornell University professor has now discovered a way to keep these spuds white also: Dip potatoes for 30 seconds in a mixture of two tablespoonsfuls of sodium bisulphite in a gallon of water. Potatoes so treated can be held overnight by draining after dipping, then covering with a cloth wrung out in the solution, covering tightly and held overnight in a refrigerator. V

Turkeys can be hatched at sea level and taken to a 10,500-foot altitude, where they will grow and obtain sexual maturity as quickly as those kept at sea level. The birds so treated experimentally at the University of California, did not show the expected increases in lung and spleen size, but did increase in heart size. V

The world horse population is estimated at 74.5 million, a drop of about 22 per cent since pre-war days, resulting from the increasing use of farm machinery. In addition, world agriculture uses about 50 million mules and asses, and about 78 million water buffaloes, which are used both for draft purposes and for milk production. The horse population in other countries is bound to decline in the years to come, as a result of the increased use of tractors, automobiles, and trucks in eastern Europe, Africa and South America. V

The Waite Agricultural Research Institute, at Adelaide, Australia, suggests that there may be some chemical inside seeds of plants which prevents virus diseases from spreading from one generation to another. Scientists have long wondered why some of the highly infectious virus diseases are not transmitted through the seed. Australian workers mixed tobacco mosaic and cucumber mosaic viruses with chemical extracts from the seeds of tobacco and cucumbers. Inoculation of the mixture into healthy plants either did not produce the disease at all, or it did relatively little harm. It is reported that chemical analysis has shown the inhibiting chemicals to be protein in nature. V

A Swedish biochemist, Professor Axel Hugh Theorell, won the 1955 Nobel Prize for medicine, for taking apart an enzyme found in horseradish and putting it together again. The horseradish enzyme is called peroxidase, which is the catalyst, or spark, that sets off the transfer of oxygen from various peroxides to other substances. V



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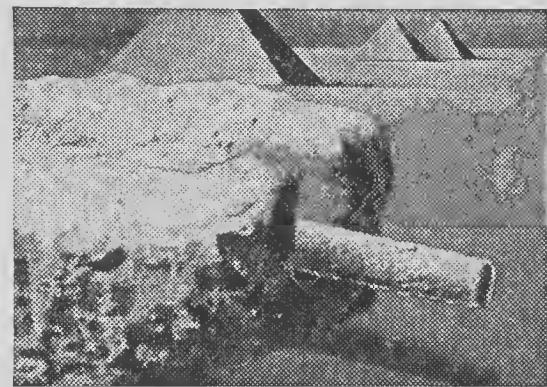
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Has Farming Turned a Corner?

Guide
OUTLOOK

The annual farm conclave of producers, pundits and politicians foresaw a little better year ahead

by H. S. FRY

THE Eighteenth Federal-Provincial Agricultural Conference held early last month in Ottawa, should probably be rated as among the best of any held since the post-war dollar shortage ended the wartime and early post-war British food contracts. It was about this time that the edge of farm prosperity became somewhat blunted and drew from a Manitoba farmer a decision to rely on his faith in God and Jimmy Gardiner. For a time it seemed to work, because some good crops, and the high prices of 1951, came along. Soon, however, the cost-price squeeze—which had been working quietly behind the scenes since 1948—had begun to make operative once again those normal differences between politics, and supernatural wisdom and goodness. At any rate, the years between 1951 and 1956 produced few dividends, either for agriculture, or for the Conference.

In 1956, the upturn appeared to have begun. While farm cash income is expected to be above the 1955 level, despite some increase in operating expenses, the good news in one of the reports was that “the decline in agricultural prices of the past few years may have levelled out in the latter months of 1956, and it seems unlikely that there will be any further decline in farm prices in 1957.”

There seems little doubt that the Canadian economy in general is in a flourishing condition. It has been a year of exceptional growth. A figure of \$29.5 billion is already forecast for gross national product. Over-all employment has increased by around four per cent. We were told that “the creation of new capital facilities has not only proceeded on a broader scale than ever before, but has actually been rising more rapidly than in any previous post-war year.” There is evidence of a strong demand for Canada’s principal export items. Industrial production is increasing in the United States and most other major trading nations, leading to a firm export demand for most agricultural products. Personal savings have been rising. The position of the Canadian consumer is increasingly good.

A MARKED change in the destination of Canadian agricultural exports should be noted. In the immediate pre-war years, the United Kingdom took 62 per cent of such exports, other than wheat,

while 27 per cent went to the United States. For the years 1953-55, only 21 per cent of farm exports other than wheat reached the United Kingdom, while 53 per cent found their way to the U.S. Since 1938, the United Kingdom has increased its self-sufficiency in food to a notable degree—in bacon and ham from 36 to 46 per cent; in pork, 74 to 91 per cent; eggs, 66 to 91 per cent; beef, 47 to 63 per cent; and apples, 23 to 73 per cent. Prior to the war, Canada exported 33 per cent of all farm products produced. This figure reached 69 per cent in 1945 and fell to 24 per cent in 1953. Canada also has experienced considerable change in the proportions of certain crops which it is now necessary to export. In 1939, we exported 17 per cent of the barley produced; 26 per cent of rye; and three per cent of flaxseed. In 1955, we exported 27 per cent of all barley; 88 per cent of rye; and at least 59 per cent of flaxseed. Our experience with livestock exports has been the reverse of these grain crops. In the earlier period, we exported 14 per cent of cattle marketings; 24 per cent of hog marketings; 65 per cent of the cheese manufactured, and 52 per cent of our apple production. In 1955, we could only spare three per cent of our cattle marketings for the export market, six per cent of our hogs, 17 per cent of our cheese, and 15 per cent of our apples. Such is the effect of a growing domestic market.

MR. GARDINER makes two major speeches at each Conference, one at the beginning and one at the end. They are seldom spectacular, or particularly valuable, but are always interesting, because one never knows what statistics he will choose this time to adapt to his uses (we use “adapt” because it is a nicer word than “distort”). It was in the second part of his first address that Mr. Gardiner outdid himself in this respect. After quoting at length from statements made by the Inter-Provincial Farm Union Council and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, and saying that he agreed more with the latter statement, he turned to farm income, quoting average gross and net farm income for several five-year periods, including estimates for 1956. The net farm income about which farmers complain so much was really higher than the statistics showed. Local taxes, gross rent, hired labor,

cost of feed and seed, were all a part of the net income of the rural community, and consequently \$685 million should be added to 1956 net farm income, as published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. More than that, however, the \$250 million calculated to provide for depreciation on buildings and machinery is still in the farmer’s pocket and won’t have to be paid out until the machinery is worn out, or the buildings have to be replaced. Consequently, Canadian net farm income, without allowing for depreciation, he estimated at \$2,492,700,000, instead of the D.B.S. estimated net farm income figure of \$1,557,700,000. There is, unfortunately, no record available of the number of those who heard the minister, who were convinced by this remarkable argument.

WHAT really made this Conference somewhat livelier and productive than other Conferences of recent years, is that more of the speakers seemed to recognize and call attention to the variety of factors which bear on agricultural welfare. One of these, which no doubt was a subject of comment partly because of the Prime Minister’s recent speech in Toronto, was the possible extension of the P.F.R.A. and a broader Federal approach to the general question of conservation. Price supports were mentioned frequently, as also were feed freight assistance, popular in all of the coastal and central provinces, livestock marketing, beef grading, and the dairy industry. The increased readiness of speakers from the same provinces to favor tariff protection for farm products was especially noticeable. Historically, Canadian agriculture has tended to prefer low tariffs, or none at all, but in recent years the burgeoning development of U.S. agriculture and our generally lower tariffs have given Canadian farmers some bad moments at wrong seasons of the year. During a period when costs have tended to rise, and farm prices to fall, these uncomfortable periods are less welcome than ever, especially to producers of highly perishable crops such as fruits and vegetables.

The changes that have taken place in agriculture in recent years were emphasized by several speakers. Ontario, for example, gets 72 cents out of every dollar of farm income, from livestock and poultry. The latter alone, surprisingly, provides 19 cents. From British (Please turn to page 45)

Guide
OUTLOOK



[Bob Taylor photo]

Looking Ahead Through 1957

On this and the following page will be found summaries of all the major, and most of the minor, reports prepared over a period of several weeks prior to the holding of the Federal-Provincial Agricultural Conference at Ottawa last month, by Departmental and Inter-Departmental Committees of experts at Ottawa. These reports are not designed to tell individual farmers what to do, but are intended to provide information which will be of assistance to farmers in making their own decisions as to what they can produce most profitably

BREAD GRAINS. Wheat. A world wheat crop in 1956-57 estimated at the record figure of 7.5 billion bushels, and available stocks held in Canada, United States, Australia and Argentina at October 1, totalling 2,318 million bushels, also a record, are the basic facts in the wheat situation. Favorable factors are: that world exports of wheat and flour are expected to remain at or near the record level—1,066 million bushels in 1951-52 (1,016 million bushels July 1-June 30, 1955-56). Canada's total 1956 wheat crop, at 538 million bushels, is 9 per cent more than last year and 16 per cent above the last ten-year average, but includes 43 million bushels of durum wheat and 20 million bushels of Ontario winter wheat. Total Canadian supplies—July 31 carry-over, 537 million, plus the new crop—estimated at 1,075 million bushels. This leaves an estimated 858 million bushels for export and carry-over July 31, 1957, or 54 million more than last year. The crop is of good quality, slightly lower in protein, but much the same baking strength as last year. Grades are estimated to be one per cent No. 1 Northern, 20 per cent No. 2 Northern, 25 per cent each No. 3 and No. 4 Northern, and 29 per cent other grades. The Wheat Board will be able to offer practically all grades except No. 1 Northern in fair quantities, including unusually large amounts of high grade durum wheat. Strong efforts are being made to promote sales of Canadian wheat, and as against the difficulties imposed by the surplus disposal operations of the United States, it is expected that about 14 million wheat acres will be withdrawn from 1957 production in the U.S., owing to the new soil bank program, which promises to reduce U.S. carry-over to around 800 million bushels, or less, by June 30, 1958.

Rye. Supplies are below those of a year ago, at 23.9 million bushels, down 10 million from last year. Annual exports run from 9 million to 13 million bushels. Acreage seeded to fall rye in 1956 is estimated at 411,100 acres, or four per cent above 1955, and mainly in Alberta.

FEED GRAINS. Total supplies for 1956-57 up about 17 per cent over last year and about 39 per cent above the 1946-55 average. The increase is due principally to the 535-million-bushel oat crop (31 per cent up) and

the 278-million-bushel barley crop (up 10 per cent). Total oats supplies are estimated at 652 million bushels (33 per cent above 1955-56) and barley supplies at 389 million bushels (13 per cent up). Mixed grain at 69 million bushels makes the largest crop on record; and corn, at 24 million bushels, greatly exceeds the ten-year average. Net feed grain supplies—a gross of 23.3 million tons less estimated exports and other domestic uses—are about 18.8 million tons, or 2.8 million tons above the 1955-56 supply, with only a very slight increase in the number of grain-consuming animal units. This leaves a supply per grain-consuming animal unit of 1.17 tons, or the largest on record. It is expected that barley exports will be slightly larger than last year, and oat exports will greatly exceed last year's very low level. Carry-over at July 31 will probably exceed the 1956 level substantially, although the domestic market for feed grains should remain satisfactory.

FORAGE CROPS. Forage crop production was about 15 per cent above the ten-year average, but the hay quality is probably below average, on the whole. A favorable pasture season will help to stretch out available winter feed supplies, but despite generally adequate supplies in western Canada, the margin of reserves is considered to be narrow.

MILL FEEDS. Little change in the supply of mill feeds available to Canadian feeders is expected. Soybean meal—40 per cent of all high protein supplements used in Canada—was 15 per cent higher during the first nine months of 1956, than a year earlier, but other types of oil meal were down about 11 per cent. However, despite a heavier export movement, supplies are believed to be adequate. Packing-house products are also expected to be about equal to those of last year. These account for about 70 per cent of high-protein feed of animal origin.

LIVESTOCK. General. Meat production in inspected or approved establishments in 1956 appears to have been close to the 1944 record 1.9 billion pounds. Production in 1957 is expected to be about the same. Meat is in strong domestic demand, but there may be some switching by consumers from pork to beef. Calf, sheep and lamb prices are not expected to show any marked changes.

Hogs. Hog gradings for the first six months of 1957 are expected to range in the vicinity of 2.7 million to 2.8 million (1956, same period, 3.2 million). Favorable hog prices last fall, may lead to an increase in hog numbers for market during the last six months of 1956-57, to produce the same number of market hogs graded, for the year, as in 1956. The 1957 total is expected to be somewhat lower than 1956, at 5.5 million to 5.6 million hogs (six million last year). The price outlook thus appears relatively favorable, especially in view of expected reductions in numbers in both Canada and the United States. Hog prices should be comparatively strong until the seasonally heavy fall marketings arrive.

Cattle. A new record may have been set in 1956 for cattle marketings, at between 1.9 million and 2 million head. The outlook this year is for another increase in net marketings, with no great change in price levels. Last June, steers on farms numbered 1.1 million, up 11 per cent, and beef heifers 700,000, up four per cent. Many of these will be marketed this year for beef, but indications are that the retention of heifers for breeding increased last year. On the whole, it is expected that steer and heifer marketings this year for slaughter should be up 5 to 10 per cent above 1956 levels.

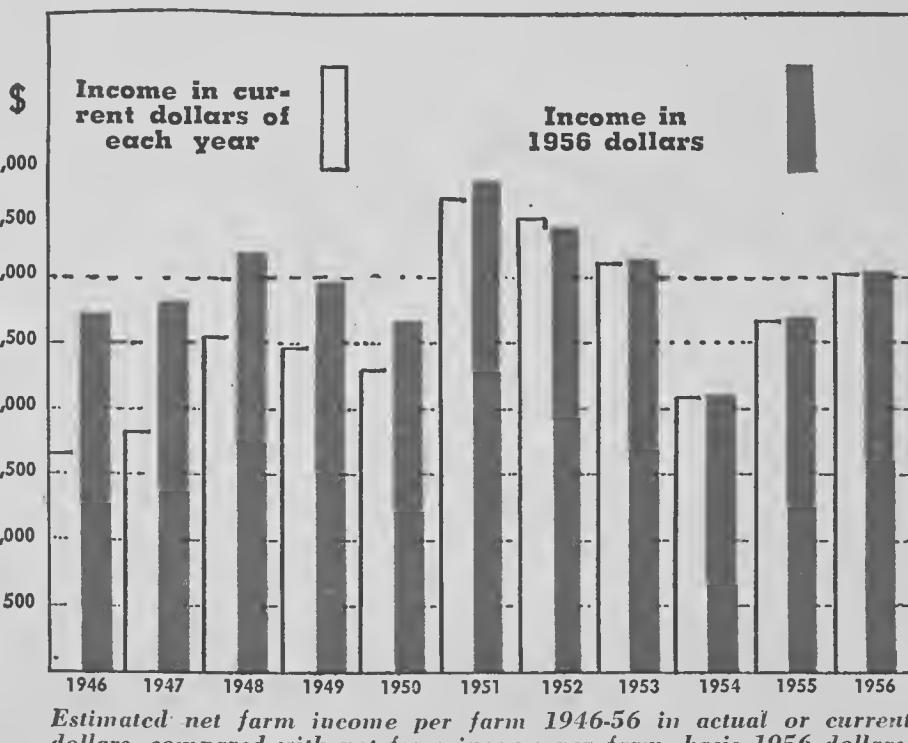
Cattle numbers will probably increase for at least one more year, and

cows this year may account for slightly over 30 per cent of total slaughter, perhaps to 33 per cent, and net cattle marketings may exceed two million for the first time. Available markets may not be able to absorb the increase in marketings without some break in price. Nevertheless, with an expected continuation of a strong domestic demand, anticipated higher average pork prices, and expected higher U.S. beef prices in 1957 during the first six months, Canadian domestic consumption will probably increase and exports of beef or beef cattle are expected to be higher this year than last. A great deal of top quality (red and blue brand) beef is likely to reach the market in the late winter and early spring. Prices for fed cattle may weaken for a time, only to strengthen again during the summer, when increased cow slaughter may weaken prices for other than the top grades.

Calves. A slight increase in calf production is in sight, but fewer female calves are likely to be retained for breeding, and calf marketings may come close to a million head, and thus achieve record numbers. Prices are not likely to improve for calves, but any decrease should be relatively slight, owing to the strong demand for meat.

Sheep and Lambs. Prices are likely to remain at or above 1956 levels, unless a sharp increase in lamb pro-

Chart I



duction is forthcoming. Demand last fall was quite strong for ewe and ram breeding stock, which suggests that a long-term growth of the sheep industry may have begun. Continuation of present domestic disappearance would mean substantial importations from Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Wool. Production will probably be close to the 1956 output of 6.4 million pounds of shorn wool and 1.6 million of pulled wool. World wool prices were higher last fall than a year earlier, but the price outlook for this year is uncertain, because world wool production reached a new record last year. On the other hand, demand for wool has been very strong and Canadian wool prices are expected to be little changed.

DAIRY PRODUCTS. General. Milk production in 1957, at the expected 17.5 billion pounds, will represent no significant change, assuming a high level of prosperity. A good domestic market for dairy products can be expected, including higher average annual prices to producers for some dairy products, including fluid milk, cheese, and some concentrated products.

Fluid Milk. Stable per capita consumption of fluid milk in recent years suggests little change in 1957. Increase in population may raise the total amount about 200 million pounds, to around 6.9 billion pounds. Higher average prices to consumers may appear.

Creamery Butter. About 306 million pounds of creamery butter is expected in 1957, which represents a million-pound decrease. This scarcely will be noticed, owing to increased demand for other products arising from the expected increase in population. Per capita consumption of creamery butter has shown little or no change in the past four years, and consumption is expected to amount to 318 million pounds. This would leave anticipated stocks of creamery butter at 84 million pounds as of December 31, 1957, or approximately three months' supply. For the last three years the carry-over was 96 million pounds as of that date.

Cheddar Cheese. Cheddar cheese production may amount to 84 million pounds and the negotiated minimum Ontario price at the end of the 1956 production season was 34 cents per pound, or five cents above 1955. The expectation is for a continuing firm cheese market well into 1957. Domestic disappearance is expected to be about 76 million pounds, or one million pounds over last year, leaving about eight million pounds for export, or less than last year. Export to the U.K. used up nearly 85 per cent of the dollar allocation for the year ending June 30, 1956. Demand continues strong and an even higher percentage of the 1956-57 allotment of \$4.2 million will be used.

Other Dairy Products. Despite relatively cool conditions ice cream consumption was well maintained in 1956. This leads to the expectation that with average conditions in 1957, per capita consumption is likely to be higher, though not as high as the record level of 16.7 pints in 1955. Expected total consumption is about 34 million gallons, or two million gallons over 1956 and one million over the record set in 1955.



At the conference were eight ministers of agriculture: Front—Hon. I. C. Nottet, Sask.; Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner; Dr. A. M. Shaw, chairman; Hon. C. B. Sherwood, N.B.; Hon. C. E. Shuttleworth, Man. Rear—Hon. E. D. Halliburton, N.S.; Hon. W. R. Chetwynd, B.C.; Hon. L. C. Halmrast, Alta.; Hon. E. Cullen, P.E.I., and Dr. J. G. Taggart (deputy), Ottawa.

Last year, about enough evaporated whole milk was produced to satisfy domestic disappearance. Production is about on balance with increasing domestic consumption, because exports have been declining for a number of years. This year, some 310 million pounds will be required.

Domestic disappearance of dry whole milk is only about five million pounds and this year may be somewhat less, but exports have accounted for production in recent years and this year may reach 60 million pounds, or about 2.5 million pounds more than in 1956. Should this export quantity materialize, a small increase in total production would be needed.

Dry skim milk produced this year may total 88 million pounds, or four million pounds more than last year, and about equal to the all-time record in 1952. Domestic disappearance has been increasing and may require 84 million pounds, with the remainder going for export.

EGGS AND POULTRY. Eggs. Between now and the end of May, egg prices are not expected to be as favorable to producers as during the same period a year ago. During the following summer months, production and prices are expected to correspond fairly well with the same period a year ago. Reasons: 63.4 million chicks, or about seven per cent more than the estimated flock replacement for the previous year, for purposes other than commercial broiler production, were produced during the period October 1955-June 1956. Egg marketings are, therefore, expected to increase until about mid-January, followed by a decline in February and March, and a seasonal increase in April and May. Important factors other than the size of the hatch are fall prices and the cost-price ratio to egg producers. Because egg prices are highly sensitive to supply, and the present number of layers can increase supplies substantially above domestic requirements, December egg prices may encourage heavy culling and a subsequent setback in production. The 1957 flock replacement hatch may not exceed the 1956 hatch. Summer marketings and prices are expected to correspond with those of last year.

Poultry and Broilers. The rapidly developing chicken broiler and turkey industries will dominate the poultry meat situation even more than in 1956. Efficiency of production and marketing has brought these elements of the industry up to where they are

now the two major sources of poultry meat in Canada. Broiler production has more than doubled in the last three years and will increase in 1957, partly because of the trend toward single management of various production and marketing activities, the development of new outlets, and the growing acceptance of this type of poultry meat as a staple commodity. Southwestern Ontario accounts for about two-thirds of Canada's broiler production, and prices there influence broiler prices elsewhere. Prices are not expected to be attractive to producers until late April or early May. A seasonal strengthening of demand is probable, but the high of 26 cents in June, 1956, probably will not be exceeded.

Turkeys. The turkey crop this year may exceed the record crop of 1956, because of increasing specialization in turkey production, and also because of a growing popularity of turkey production with prairie farmers, as a cash crop. Prairie production is likely to exceed 1956 production, owing to a plentiful supply of feed grains. Nevertheless, turkey prices last fall were about five cents per pound higher than in the United States, and much the same situation is likely to develop in 1957. This means that Canadian prices are likely to be based on U.S. prices plus transportation and duty.

FRUITS. Apples. In 1956 some 108 million bushels of apples were produced in North America, and of this amount, Canada produced 12 million bushels, or 16 per cent below the 1949-53 average, and 37 per cent less than last year. Consequently, higher prices prevail. Apples processed in 1956-57 will be considerably less than the 4.7 million bushels processed in the previous crop year, ending June 30, despite well-above-average stocks of processed apple products on hand at the beginning of the crop year. Fresh market prices were strengthened by a strong demand for processing apples. Exports July 1-November 9 were 380,000 bushels compared with 540,000 a year earlier. Increased exports from British Columbia to the U.S. were offset by decreased exports from eastern Canada, and the total for the season is not expected to equal the three million bushels reached during 1955-56. Imports were heavier during the 1956 period, and are expected to approximate the 700,000 bushels imported last year. B.C. production in

1957 may still be below average, because of winter injury during 1955-56.

Pears. Since 1945, pear production has tended to increase, and this is expected to continue this year. Ontario's 7,000 acres (700,000 trees) in 1952, have not increased appreciably, but the trees are older and tend to bear more heavily. The 775,000 trees in B.C. escaped last winter's killing frosts and are mainly ten years of age and under. Pear prices are also fairly constant and have been somewhat higher than prices for apples in recent years.

Tree Fruits. Under favorable weather conditions, the peach, cherry, apricot, plum and prune crops are expected to be larger than last year. Ontario expects an increase in the amount of sweet and sour cherries, but the normal increase to be expected during the next few years in B.C. production of peaches, cherries and apricots will largely be offset this year by the winter injury of last winter.

Small Fruits. The 1956 production of strawberries and raspberries was sadly reduced by the frost damage in British Columbia, where 40 and 60 per cent of these crops, respectively, are normally produced. The 1949-53 level of production will not be reached for several years, but this year's crops are expected to exceed those of last year.

VEGETABLES. Potatoes. Potato production last year, at 66.8 million bushels, was one per cent above 1955. The Maritimes, with 27.4 million bushels, were 9 per cent lower; Central Canada with 28.2 million bushels, was 5 per cent higher; and western Canada, at 11.2 million bushels, was 26 per cent above 1955. Exports for table and seed use are not likely to reach the 6.4 million bushels exported in 1955-56, because of the large U.S. crop, notwithstanding that exports from July 1 to November 2 were 820,000 bushels as compared with 647,000 in the same period of 1955. The distribution of Canada's crop this year is better than last year, and imports are, therefore, not expected to be as heavy. The U.S. crop was 13 per cent above that of 1955, with substantial increases in several states: Maine up 13 per cent, North Dakota up 55 per cent and Idaho up 6 per cent. Florida, California and other states with winter and spring crops are expected to have substantially larger crops than those of 1956.

(Please turn to page 46)

Guide
OUTLOOK



Dr. E. C. Hope is economist for the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

A YEAR ago, in an article in The Country Guide entitled "Why The Squeeze On Farmers?", I suggested that the plight of the Canadian farmer was chiefly due to the full, or more than full, recovery of world agricultural production, from its World War II decline. This over-expansion came as a result of the favorable cost-price ratios of 1947 to 1951.

I then posed the question "How long will this over-production last?" and answered it in these words: "I suspect that what will take place is that the recent fast rate of expansion in world agricultural production will slow down to a halt very soon, and possibly even this year (1956). In about two or three years, world population increases will overtake food production. Then, a recovery in world food prices will take place. Only a serious world-wide depression can prevent a significant recovery in world agriculture including Canadian agriculture, within the next two or three years."

A year has now gone since the above statement was made. Have world events in this interval changed the outlook? No, I do not think they have. In fact, I believe that 1956 will be recorded as the year when the decline was stopped and modest recovery started.

Each year the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (F.A.O.) tabulates estimates of world food production per capita. In this tabulation (see page 48) the pre-war figure is 100. For the seven years 1946-47 to 1953-54 the average annual percentage increase was 2.8 per cent. In the two years since then, the increase has only amounted to one per cent, a rate of only one-half of one per cent a year. F.A.O. indicates that for 1956-57 there will be only a small increase in total world food production, but as world population increases about 1.5 per cent a year, it is quite likely that world per capita food production will not increase significantly this year.

It should be pointed out that it is not only annual farm production that influences prices, but also annual supply, which is production plus carryover stocks of foods. Therefore, before any really worthwhile recovery can take place in prices, world surplus stocks will have to be reduced. There is, however, evidence that the first phase of recovery has started. There has been a slowing down, and probably an actual halt, in the upward march of world per capita production of foods.

THE slowing down of world food production in relation to world population growth during the past year was reflected in a stiffening of price levels for farm products in a number of countries in 1956. In the September F.A.O. Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Economics and Statistics, the index numbers of prices of farm products for a number of countries are tabulated. For 16 of these countries the trend of farm prices was rising for the first six

Recovery in Sight

Only a world-wide depression can prevent a significant recovery in agriculture, is the opinion of

E. C. HOPE

months of 1956, when compared with the same period of 1955. In six countries the trend of farm prices was still downward, but one of these, Canada, has had a rising trend of prices since June 1956. By November, the price index for farm products in Canada was about six per cent higher than a year ago. In the United States farm prices are about 4.5 per cent higher than a year ago. To keep the record straight, I should add that farmers have not gained all the modest increase in farm prices, since farm costs of production have risen during the past 12 months, at about half the rate of the increase in prices of farm products.

At the present time, the major problem in world agriculture is not so much the amount of annual production in relation to population, or effective demand, as it is the large carryover stocks of a few key storable products such as wheat, corn, cotton, and perhaps sugar.

We have heard a great deal about the increases due to agricultural technological development within recent years. Spectacular gains in efficiency of farm production are being claimed and in some quarters these factors are considered to be largely responsible for surplus stocks of basic storable farm products. It is probably true that considerable gains in farm productivity have taken place during the post-war years in world agriculture. Much of this can be traced directly to the post-war shift from horses to mechanical power. Under the stimulus of favorable cost-price relationships for farm production during 1946-1951, great advances were made in the shift from horses to mechanical power in the countries of the Western World.

Since 1951, however, two factors have been responsible for slowing down the rate of this shift. In the first place, after ten years of rapid shift from horses to tractor power, there are now relatively fewer horses to be replaced by tractors. This is particularly the case in North America, Australia, New Zealand and the more advanced countries of Europe. In the next ten years, gains in productivity from the shift to mechanical power will be less than gains from this factor within recent years. The second important factor is the recent four- to

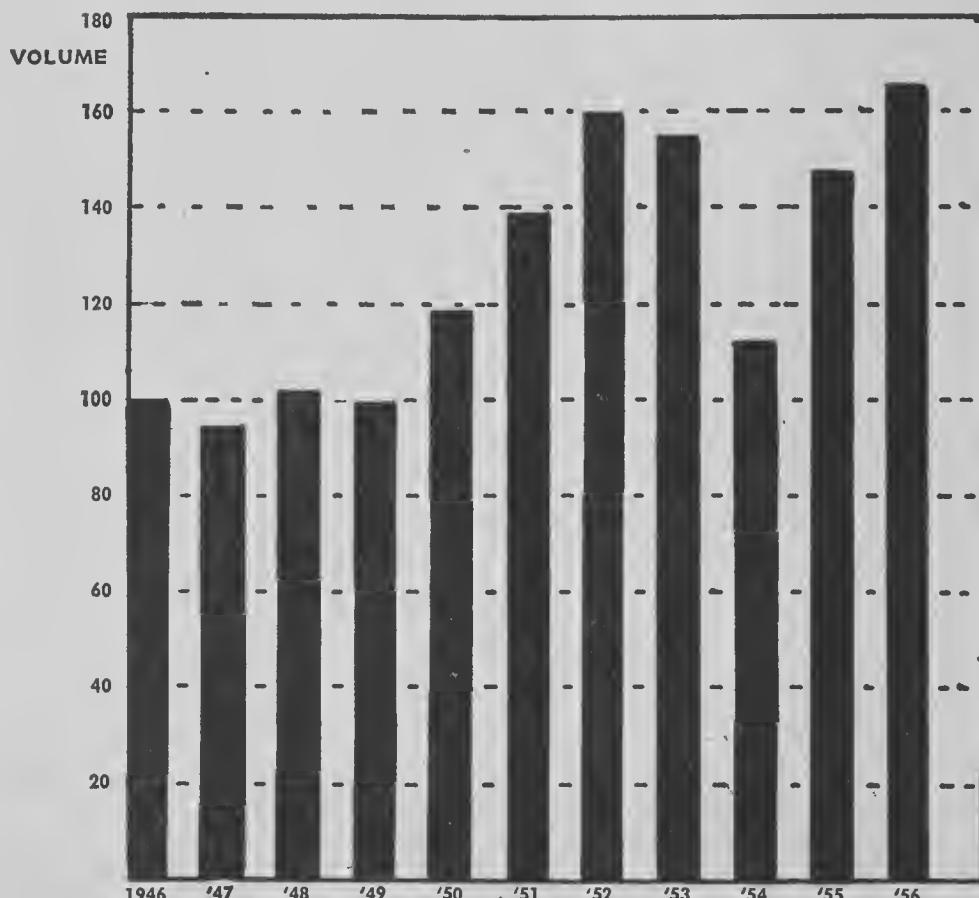
five-year decline in the relative income of farmers, which has occurred in most farming regions of the world. This factor cannot help but result in a slowing down of the rate of capital investment for expansion and improvement of agriculture. Also, a considerable part of the recent gains in productivity in world agriculture can be credited to favorable weather. Within the past ten years no major agricultural region has experienced a series of poor seasons. Over a period of ten years this is rather unusual. We only have to cite Canada as one example of a country which has experienced exceptionally favorable seasons over the past five years.

It would appear to be a reasonable assumption that over the next few years some major agricultural region of the world will experience unfavorable seasons. The recent series of good harvests is unlikely to persist.

IT has been suggested that the United States Soil Bank Program will have a significant effect on world surplus stocks of some basic farm products. Possibly its final net effects may be in this direction, but over the next few years I suggest that a slowing down in the rate of world agricultural expansion of production due to a decline in the significance of the shift from horses to tractors, a decline in the capital investment in agriculture, and a return to a more normal pattern of world weather conditions, will be the major factors in the recovery of world agriculture.

Recovery in world agriculture could be halted, or even thrown back to a lower level, if a major international business depression should materialize. Under such conditions, international trade in farm products would fall. Farm products would be backed up on shrinking domestic markets and farmers would again be in difficulties.

To date, the capital investment boom in most countries of the world has followed a similar course to that following the first world war. After the first world war the over-expansion ended in a worldwide collapse in 1929. In 1956, governments in most countries of the Western world realized that the pace of capital (Please turn to page 48)



She was twenty-three already and older for every empty day that passed.



Love is for the living

**"The sensible thing isn't enough with human beings," Uncle Clayte said.
"Suppose there was something more! Ever think of that, Elinor?"**

by ALEC RACKOWE

ON Saturdays the offices of Kallman-Kaye, Advertising were closed the year round. When the telephone rang in the small apartment just east of Madison Avenue in the middle Fifties, Elinor Breese was lying on the farther of the twin beds. The one she still called Tom's. The windows of the colonial maple room were open, and Elinor could tell, by the closeness of the October air, that Indian summer lingered.

The phone rang softly. Elinor's grey-green eyes, which had been wide upon the low ceiling, turned to the niche where the instrument rested. She swung her slim legs to the hooked rug and went around the end of her own bed; a shapely girl with a cloud of chestnut brown hair about her small head and oval face.

She drew the pale green robe about her as she passed the bureau where Tom's picture was, and Tommy looked out from under his campaign hat, silver wings on his breast, laughing. Tommy, who would always be twenty-one. She was twenty-three already and older for every empty day that passed.

She hadn't been thinking of Tommy. She wasn't thinking of him as she took up the phone. She had been thinking of High Mount, as she had so often these past two months. Seeing again the white clapboarded house, the red barns and long, red chicken house nestling in the tiny valley at the foot of the wooded mount. Wondering

how it looked in autumn red and yellow; hearing Uncle Clayte Adams' thin, dry voice; seeing David in dungarees and cowhide boots, his shirt open at the throat as he went about his chores.

The phone made clicking noises. A voice said clearly, "I have a call for Mrs. Thomas Breese."

"This is Mrs. Breese," Elinor said, her red lips parting, her silky lashes lifting.

A jumble of voices came in all at once, faded abruptly, and a dry, patient voice asked, "This go on much longer, miss?"

The operator and Elinor spoke at once. The operator said, "I have your party . . ." and Elinor cried, "Why, Uncle Clayte!"

Uncle Clayte Adams said imperceptibly, "You can go away now, miss, and let me talk to Elinor."

Elinor laughed. "Oh, Uncle Clayte, it's good to hear you again. How are you?"

"Fine." She could see him as he stood holding the phone in the big kitchen. His lean, corded throat; the cowlick of white hair over his tanned forehead. "Figured I mightn't get you. Figured you'd be away on a day like this. You going away?"

"I'm not," Elinor said.

"Well, now, why don't you? Going to be a mighty fine week-end. There's a train from the Jersey side down your way that leaves at eleven. Get you to Middletown at two, about. You could make us a pie for supper."

Elinor's lashes meshed. She shook her head. "I'm sorry, Uncle Clayte . . ."

He went on as if she had not spoken: "Going to be a mite lonely with only Scott around. David's away. Thought you and me, we could gather wild grapes and talk."

Elinor's eyes widened. "Uncle Clayte, don't . . ."

"Don't what, Elly?"

"Don't tempt me."

She heard his dry chuckle. "Remember what Oscar Wilde said? 'Best way to resist temptation is to give in to it.' Whyn't you come, Elly?"

The friendliness of his voice warmed her, just as it had when she had first met him, a scant three months before. She heard herself saying, a catch in her throat. "All right. I will, Uncle Clayte." Her eyes swung to the electric clock. "I'll hurry. It's ten o'clock here."

"Seems to be that here," Uncle Clayte said, with that ever present hint of laughter in his voice. "Get out them dungarees and that red handkerchief you use for a belt. Better bring a topcoat for the evening air. I'll meet you."

IN twenty minutes Elinor had her bag packed and was swinging down the street to the crowded subway. Not faced with an empty week-end or invitations she might accept only because she could not always be alone, but bound for a place where there was beauty and warmth and a good friend waiting. And David not there to trouble her.

There were no vacationers descending onto the long Middletown platform, no busmen calling. Uncle Clayte came toward her, spare and erect. He took the bag from her hand. "Where's that tan you took away with you? Being pale don't suit you, Elly."

Elinor said, with a shake of her head, "Gone with the summer, Uncle Clayte," and walked with him to the narrow, crooked street.

He had brought the pickup, not the shiny big sedan. Elinor was glad of that. Uncle Clayte put her bag behind the cab, and Elinor climbed in, and heard with pleasure the tinny clang of the door as she slammed it shut.

They turned off the main road onto the black macadam, past the deserted sprawl of summer hotels and there, at last, seemingly set in the very flank of High Mount, was the white house and the neat outbuildings.

Scott, with his sun-discolored blond hair, appeared at the doorway of the chicken house, grinning. Elinor waved and got from the cab. Uncle Clayte said, "Take your bag up to your room and get out of them city clothes, Elly."

She went up the narrow, carpeted stairs to the red-and-white-papered room where the eaves and dormered windows made odd angles and charming nooks. Elinor put down her bag and looked out at the fields, the shocked cornstalks, the multi-colored rise of the mountain going far, far above. She had thought she would never see this again.

(Please turn to page 29)



Now's the Time to Take Stock of Your Investments

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Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

WHEN the Conservatives were here in Ottawa in all their glory last month, in national convention assembled, they put together a dilly of a platform, compounded of high idealism and careful ambiguities. This is not intended to be a sneer, but rather a recognition of the fact that any party aspiring to catch votes in every section of Canada (that's its job, isn't it?) must watch its language.

To those of us who watched them in action, the Tories had quite the appearance of a truly national political party, with a generous proportion of youth present to give, perhaps, renewed hope to their somewhat disillusioned elders. And there were the inevitable huddles over what line to take on sectionally or racially contentious questions. The flag question, for instance! This was settled by a beautifully innocuous resolution which could mean a national emblem containing almost anything, except, perhaps, the hammer and sickle.

This is the manner of experienced parties; and if they try to be too specific, they are in danger of falling into such a trap as caught the Farmer-Labor party in Saskatchewan in 1934, with its "production for use" program. (Not that the Conservatives of 1956, even in the quietness of their committee rooms, had any such earth-shaking ideas.)

All in all, the Conservatives at Ottawa last month, with their hoop-la for the television cameras and backstage bickerings, had the look of a party with really serious intentions. The most recently televised political conventions were those of the United States Democratic and Republican parties, and Canada's Conservatives gave the impression of having studied the performance on both those occasions.

THERE is found around Ottawa—which contains Canadians from every part of the country—a lively interest in this convention. For, after all, the Conservative party (with or without the somewhat meaningless "Progressive" prefix) still presents the only alternative to the present government.

Not many of the self-appointed experts here give the Tories any hope to win in 1957. They can't see Quebec yielding to Mr. Diefenbaker much more than the paltry five seats at present under the Tory banner and they are inclined to look for less.

What they are more interested in, I find, is the showing the Conservatives will make in the West. Especially in the three provinces now dominated provincially, and also, largely, federally, by the C.C.F. and Social Credit parties.

For in the four Western provinces, and nowhere else, lies the key to whether Canadian politics will continue to be a hodge-podge of factions, or a straightforward two-party system on the American model, with all its



inevitable stresses and strains—but a system presenting to the voters the only clear alternative to the party in office at any given time.

Hence the attention being paid, in these parts, to the West, among believers in the two-party system, who are clearly in the majority. They have seen enough of the operations of Parliament to be skeptical of the claims of the third and fourth parties—especially after watching the present government calmly appropriating many of the choicest ideas of one of them.

And so the question arises of how the revived Conservative party will approach its problem in the West, where at present it has but nine seats out of 70. The only prominent Conservative at last month's convention to declare himself definitely on this question was Donald Fleming, who said that he would entertain no coalitions or alliances, except under conditions threatening the very existence of the state. Mr. Diefenbaker was less forthright, although he did express himself in favor of restoring the two-party system.

THE obvious danger to the Conservatives, considering their weak starting position, is that an all-out effort in the West may pull away enough votes from third and fourth parties to elect Liberals, without promoting their own candidates to the top spot. But, by the same token, such an outcome could mean the undermining of those groups which, in Eastern Canada at least, have become only a nuisance in terms of the national political scene. So, knowing the risks, what will the Conservatives do? They must also know that at the first sign of deals out West, with another party—specifically Social Credit—they are likely to lose support elsewhere, especially in what is still the key province of Ontario.

Meanwhile, all political parties, as far as the West is concerned, face the still-unresolved problem of railway freight rates. The railways have been granted still another increase. One of them—the C.P.R.—is attempting to cut its own costs through dispensing with some of its workers on diesel operations. What will the Conservatives have to say about this plainly national question in their next appeal to the Canadian electorate? V

GET IT AT A GLANCE

The price support program for eggs will be continued in 1957 at 38 cents per dozen, basis Grade A Large eggs delivered at storage points. Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner, minister of agriculture, announced that the Board would purchase eggs, as necessary, at the established price, plus carrying charges, to maintain prices to producers in keeping with the support price. V

The 1956 barley crop is of better quality than the 1955 crop, according to the Board of Grain Commissioners. Samples show a mean protein content of 10.7 per cent for six-row grades and No. 1 feed. The crop is estimated at 267 million bushels, which is 23 million more than in 1955, despite a 12 per cent reduction in acreage in 1956. V

An effective treatment for rabies was confirmed at a meeting of the committee on rabies of the World Health Organization in Paris recently. It was reported that serum plus vaccine had successfully prevented rabies in a group of people who were severely bitten by a rabid wolf in Iran. This step forward is a result of international co-operation. V

A shortage of 2,000,000 cattle in Canada by 1966 is predicted by W. E. Watson, a Manitoba market manager. At the present rate of population increase, over 4,000,000 more cattle would be needed in ten years' time, but only 200,000 head a year are being added to cattle numbers, making a ten-year increase of 2,000,000. V

A national campaign against Bang's disease (brucellosis) will be opened this year by the Canada Department of Agriculture. Cattle over 30 months old will receive blood tests, and infected cattle will be destroyed. The compensation will be similar to that paid to farmers under the tuberculosis eradication program. V

Average soil bank payments in the United States will be higher this year for five basic crops. Payment per acre for wheat land taken out of production will be \$20.04, compared with \$8 in 1956, and \$42.66 for corn land compared with \$33 last year. V

A new vaccine to protect mink against virus enteritis has been developed at the Government of Manitoba fur research station, and 38,000 free doses of it have been administered with great success. Some idea of the importance of this vaccine can be gained from the fact that 76 per cent of the mink kits were destroyed by the disease on one farm alone in the spring of 1955. V

An honor for John N. Welsh, senior cerealist at the Cereal Breeding Laboratory, Winnipeg, came in the form of a citation at the annual Cornell University Seed School recently. It was a tribute to his work in developing the Garry oat variety. V

Plant breeders in western Europe have set up an international association to establish closer contacts between research workers and provide mutual assistance in plant breeding and the exchange of plant material. V

An egg marketing plan for Saskatchewan was discussed at a meeting

of farm organizations in Regina recently. Representatives from Alberta and Manitoba also attended, and it is hoped that all three provinces will set up a plan simultaneously. The aim is to create a more stable price structure, mainly by regulating the flow of eggs to the market. V

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture has asked the provincial government for emergency assistance on feed grain imports from the west at the rate of \$4 per ton during the current feed year. It is claimed that many Ontario farmers will be forced to make up their feed requirements with heavy imports from western Canada. V

Horse chestnut milk, and milk from other nuts, can be used to accelerate the growth of roots, according to Dr. F. C. Steward of Cornell University. Just as animals provide milk to nourish their young, so do plants at the "milk stage" nourish the plant embryos. V

A big demand for Canadian dairy cattle in the United States during the next few years was forecast by Hardy Shore of Glanworth, Ont., at the annual meeting of the Waterloo Holstein Club. Replacements would be needed for cattle slaughtered in the brucellosis control program, he said. V

Jerry Leiske of Beiseker, Alberta, became North American Wheat King at Chicago for the second consecutive year. Aged 14, Jerry won the championship with a sample of Chinook, as he had done in 1955. V

Western Germany set an all-time record for grain production last year, with a total of 13,113,000 tons, but quality was down because of a wet season. Owing to the high cost of drying, and losses in weight and content, West Germany is expected to continue as a good customer for Canadian wheat during the current crop year. V

The shift of Canadian farmers to the city has been an indirect help to agriculture by causing less human and more animal and mechanical operations, with an increase in output, said Dr. J. G. Taggart, deputy minister of agriculture, at a meeting of the National Council of 4-H Clubs. V

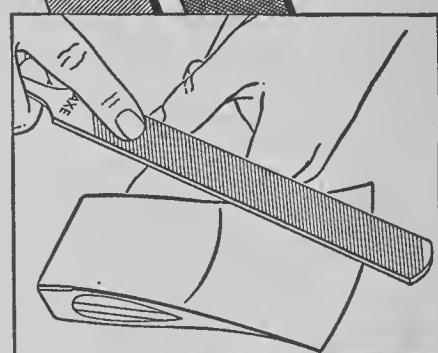
The honey crop for 1956 was 26.3 million pounds, according to a preliminary estimate of the Bureau of Statistics. This is about five per cent greater than the 1955 crop, but 17 per cent below the ten-year average. The average yield of 77 pounds per colony was the same in 1955. V

An antibiotic treatment for shipping fever in beef cattle has been approved in the United States. It takes the form of terramycin contained in a special feed supplement, and is said to cost between five and ten cents per head per day, offering protection for 19 to 21 days. It is used for prevention as well as treatment. V

Co-operative Avicole de Quebec is sponsoring a baby chick contest for its members at the National Salon of Agriculture in Montreal next month. It is the first contest of its kind in Quebec. V

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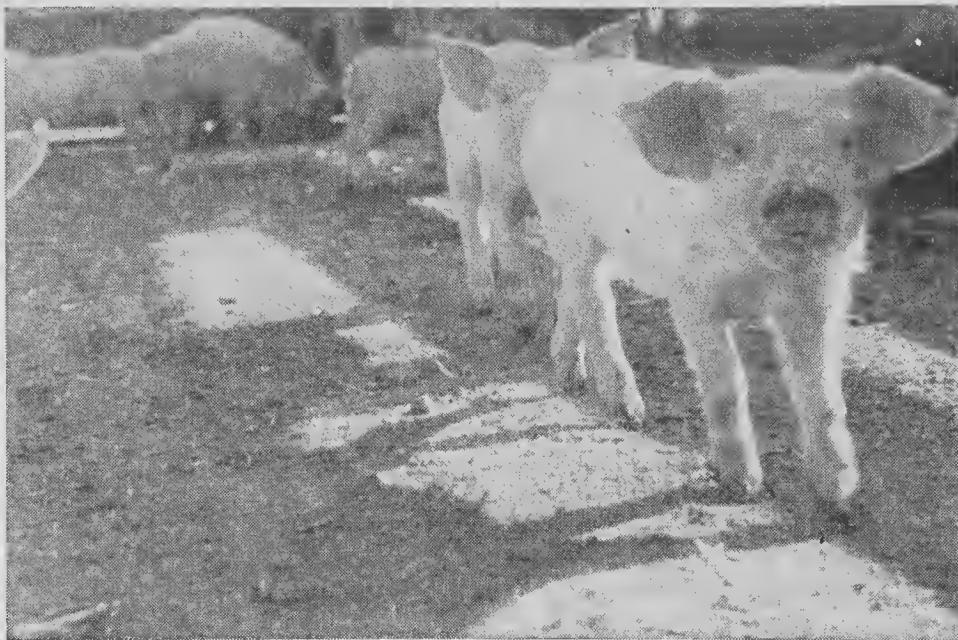
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LIVESTOCK



Guide photo

This young Lacoube hog, and the rest of the litter, shows good growth in less than two weeks. Lacoubes are intended for crossing with Yorkshires.

Portable Farrowing Crates

ONLY seven pigs out of 25 litters were lost due to crushing by the sow, when farrowing crates were used at the Agassiz Experimental Farm, B.C., during the past two years. D. M. Bowden claims that other advantages include ease of handling for ear notching, cutting eye teeth and feeding iron supplements. Crates also keep the pigs close under heat lamps to prevent chilling.

At Agassiz, the sow is placed in the crate one day before farrowing, and remains there for two or three days after farrowing. These crates can be constructed inexpensively from wood or iron, and the portable type at the Agassiz farm can be removed, leaving the sow in the pen where she farrowed. This is less disturbing to the sow and the young pigs. These portable and collapsible crates need less storage space when they are not in use.

keep shrinkage records. Finally, weighing away from the ranch involves certain incidental expenses. You pay for these, and have a right to allow for them in considering a price.

Beef Program For Nova Scotia

AN acre of hay is worth \$20 or \$30, while an acre of improved pasture can yield 500 pounds of beef or more. That's why S. B. Williams, superintendent of the Nappan Experimental Farm, Nova Scotia, sees a chance for farmers to boost incomes by raising more beef.

Here is the program he recommends. First, increase pasture yields, he says. Experiments at the station have shown, that with application of about 1,000 pounds of lime and 200 pounds of superphosphate per acre, upland pastures can produce an average of 468 pounds of beef per acre, dikeland pastures can average 543 pounds of beef per acre.

Then, he recommends selling cattle off grass, at about 30 months old, to reduce grain consumption. This could mean greater beef production (Nova Scotia must import beef from other provinces to meet its needs). It could mean better beef, because carcasses of acceptable quality can come from this age of animal. It also would mean lower costs, because home-grown forage becomes a major ingredient of the beef.

Allowing For Shrinkage

DO you aim for the highest possible price per pound for your cattle, or do you make allowance for shrinkage and weighing conditions when you consider an offer? That's a tricky question, especially if you sell stockers or feeders at the ranch or some other local point.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture suggests that you consider the following factors. The highest price per pound does not necessarily mean the highest profit per animal. It depends on how many pounds are counted, and a lower pound price on cattle as they stand can be more profitable than a higher pound price, when the buyer is allowed to subtract too many pounds for shrinkage.

Secondly, if cattle sold with a pencil shrink (allowance for fill animals may be carrying) are weighed early in the morning, the buyer is getting the benefits of two shrinkages in the weight. Thirdly, if animals are moved off the ranch and weighed on scales away from the ranch, the weight of the cattle shrinks some more. You can discover how much this is, and can allow for it, if you

Vitamin A In the Feedlot

FEEDLOT cattle in Alberta have shown a number of cases of vitamin A deficiency in recent years, according to Dr. Frank Whiting of the Lethbridge Experimental Farm. This deficiency reduces body gains and efficiency of feed use, and leaves the animal more susceptible to diseases. If it is not corrected, it may cause death.

Night blindness, the inability of animals to see in a dim light, is usually the first symptom of vitamin A deficiency in the feedlot. As the condition grows worse, the animals cannot see well during the day, a watery discharge may run from their eyes, they may stumble when forced to move quickly, and often their legs and brisket become swollen.

Green grass and good quality leafy hay are the main sources of vitamin A (carotene) for cattle. Hay that has been weathered in the field or heated in the bale or stack has very little vitamin A. Straw and grain cereals contain none at all. When animals have received vitamin A from green grass, they usually store enough to carry them for three to four months, or even longer, without showing any signs of deficiency. It is usually only the cattle kept on dry feed of low vitamin A value for long periods that suffer from a deficiency.

Experiments at Lethbridge showed that there was no advantage in feeding a vitamin A supplement to steers receiving five pounds of good quality alfalfa hay daily, and it appears from experiments elsewhere that two to three pounds of good alfalfa hay daily supply enough vitamin A to fattening cattle.

It is the cattle fed poor quality roughages, and especially those coming off dry ranges, that need the vitamin A supplement, if they are to be on dry feed for more than two to three months.

Erysipelas In Three Forms

SWINE erysipelas occurs in three forms, two acute and the other chronic. One type of acute can cause several apparently healthy pigs in the herd to sicken and die suddenly, almost overnight. Others might run a high fever, lose their appetite, and show a purplish discoloration on the skin. The second acute form is "diamond skin disease," appearing as diamond-shaped lesions, which later turn purple.

The chronic form of erysipelas usually occurs in swine that have apparently recovered from one of the acute forms. Arthritis is the main symptom, showing in swollen, enlarged joints. Mortality is low, but the pigs usually remain stunted and very unthrifty.

The Beaverlodge Experimental Farm, which has issued these descriptions of swine erysipelas, recommends the use of bacterins for immunization of healthy swine. In herds where an outbreak occurs, a combination of serum and penicillin is the preferred treatment. Consult a veterinarian if you suspect erysipelas, because prompt action will minimize your losses.



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HOW is this for pasture? An 11-acre field at the Nappan Experimental Farm, Nova Scotia, grazed 22 Jersey cows from May 20 to September 30, then carried 60 sheep from September 30 to November 15. In addition, it yielded seven tons of grass silage cut in June.

That kind of production from any field can be profitable, and here is how that good yield was obtained.

The field was reseeded in 1953, at which time it was limed, at two tons per acre. In 1954, it was fertilized with 400 pounds to the acre of 3-15-6, and then in July, another 100 pounds of sulphate of ammonia was added.

In 1955, the year the above record was obtained, controlled grazing was practiced, with the cows allowed onto an additional small area each day. V

**Balanced Feed
Is the Cheapest**

WHAT is feed efficiency? Think of it in terms of the feed required to produce a dozen eggs, a pound of milk, or a pound of meat, says Dr. S. C. Stothers of the Department of Animal Science, University of Manitoba. It depends on several factors summed up as breeding, feeding and management.

Various breeding programs have shown inherited differences in rate of gain, as in the case of performance testing of beef cattle and the advanced registry of swine, which can be used to select the most efficient animals. The feed efficiency varies in different species of animals, broilers using an average of 2.7 to 3 pounds of feed to make one pound of meat, pigs using 3.5 to 4 pounds, and sheep and lambs 5 to 7 pounds of grain, and 4 to 8 pounds of hay. Continuous tests are being made by research workers to reduce these amounts.

Take into account that poor housing, diseases and parasites have adverse effects, which cannot be completely overcome by superior breeding and the most fortified rations, if care is inadequate, the animals are over-crowded, or other aspects of management are poor.

Assuming average practical conditions of breeding and management, the highest feed efficiency comes from a properly balanced ration. The lack of a single essential nutrient can mean poorer utilization of all the other nutrients. In choosing a ration, remember that the needs of an animal depend on whether it is pregnant, lactating, growing rapidly, or being finished for market, and adjustments must be made.

Results obtained at the university emphasize the importance of feed efficiency. Pigs fed on oats and barley alone needed more time to finish, and from \$4 to \$5 more feed per market hog than a similar group fed a properly balanced ration. "No producer," says Dr. Stothers, "can afford to pay this 'hidden tax,' from which he receives no returns." V

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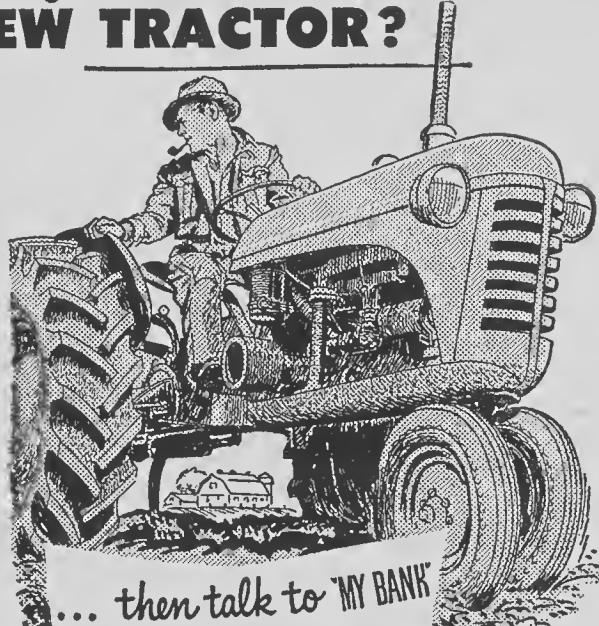
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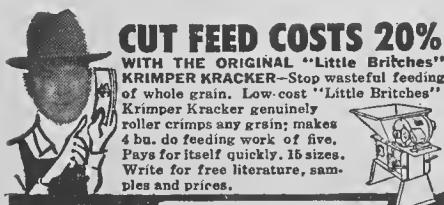
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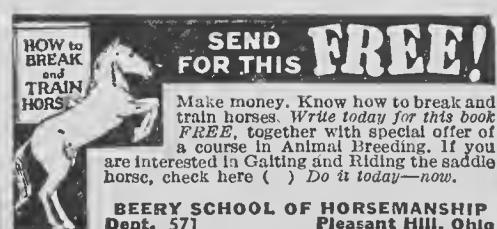
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FIELD



Guide photo
The flax on the left shows heavy wild oats infestation. Randox, a new herbicide, was applied to the flax plot on the right and gave excellent results.

New Oats For New Brunswick

SOME of the new oat varieties developed in the past ten years have given high yields in New Brunswick, says T. C. Chiasson of the Fredericton Experimental Farm, N.B. Among the new varieties are Abegweit, Scotian, Ajax, Beaver, Shefford, Garry, Rodney, Clinton, Craig, Clinton, Fortune, Roxton and Simcoe. There are also some older varieties still in use, such as Victory, Vanguard, Banner, Cartier and Alaska. This wide selection might be confusing, but testing at the experimental farms and illustration stations has shown the most productive varieties for this area. For instance, the illustration stations have had these average yields: Abegweit, 51.7 bushels; Ajax, 47.7; Scotian, 47.7; Beaver, 46.4, and Clinton, 35.4. Similar tests at Fredericton place Abegweit an average of 20 bushels per acre ahead of Victory.

The varieties recommended for New Brunswick are Abegweit, Ajax, Scotian and Garry. The choice between these varieties rests with factors such as maturity and lodging, rather than yield. The nearest experimental farm will give further information. V

Insects In Stored Grain

INFESTED grain usually heats, and the hot spots can often be found by thrusting the hand into the grain at several places on the surface. To locate heating at greater depths, use a metal rod, but leave it in the grain for a few minutes before testing its warmth.

A warning comes from the Scott Experimental Farm, Sask., that insect infestations should be controlled as soon as they are found. You can check infestations by moving the grain in cold weather to cool it, and most infestations can be controlled by cleaning the grain. But if the grain is infested by the rusty grain beetle, it may be necessary to fumigate it, because a proportion of the beetles will remain inside the kernels even after cleaning.

Fumigants may be applied at three to four gallons per 1,000 bushels. It is safer to apply them from the outside

of the granary through the ventilator, rather than from inside. Small granaries can be fumigated in less than five minutes, using a stirrup pump to spray uniformly over the surface. Two men should do the fumigation, and both should wear gas masks.

Check grain that has been cleaned or fumigated during the storage period and take prompt action at the first sign of insects. Before transferring cleaned grain to an empty granary, repair roof leaks, sweep down the walls and floor, and spray all inside surfaces with a suitable insecticide. Clean up all residues of old grain, because they almost always contain insects. V

Double Grass Yields with Fertilizer

HEAVY annual fertilizer application gives bumper crops of hay and grass in Prince Edward Island. In fact, 12 years of trials on demonstration farms across the island showed an average yield of 19.05 tons of pasture herbage per acre from fertilized land, compared to 10.15 tons from the untreated check plots, almost double the yield. Sixty-one pounds of ammonium nitrate, 600 pounds superphosphate, plus 100 pounds muriate of potash were used to get those big yields.

Trials on the island, carried out by the Charlottetown Experimental Farm, also showed good results from light top dressings of well-rotted manure applied in the fall, once every three years. This encouraged the establishment and growth of wild white clover and native grasses, and prolonged the grazing period, helping the pasture to survive lengthy dry spells. V

Use Best Forage Varieties

MOST farmers know the recommended varieties of cereals, and recognize the importance of growing the right variety, but when it comes to sowing pasture or hay land, many ignore the improved varieties, which are just as important if they want maximum returns from their land.

The Swift Current Experimental Farm, Sask., points out that the work of producing improved varieties of

forage crops is of value only if farmers take an interest in them and use them. It is essential that livestock producers keep abreast of the new forage crops and the recommendations for their use.

Summit, a new variety of crested wheatgrass, and Rambler, a new alfalfa, are two examples of new forage crop varieties which all livestock men should become acquainted with, and should use as soon as they are available. The seed is not on sale at present, but of those varieties which can be obtained, growers are urged to use Ladak alfalfa and Fairway crested wheatgrass. V

Tobacco And Nitrogen

VETCH, a leguminous plant infesting many tobacco farms, fixes atmospheric nitrogen in the soil. This raises soil nitrogen to a high level, and can delay maturity and produce thin lugs, which will waste under drought conditions or become lifeless during curing. Excessive nitrogen also produces thin upper leaves of poor texture and color.

If vetch was allowed to grow during the previous summer, the fertilizer nitrogen of the tobacco crop should be lowered. This can be done by using 2-18-8 fertilizer or broadcasting 0-12-20 fertilizer mixture, in combination with a low rate of 2-12-10 at transplanting.

The spring and summer growth of vetch can be controlled in rye with 2,4-D amine, and sowing clean rye seed will help to prevent further infestations. If, however, fields have been infested with vetch, do not apply nitrogenous or complete fertilizers when disking in the mature rye crop. V

Time to Think About Seed

IT'S not too early to think of seed, and particularly of seed cleaning. A. M. Wilson, the Alberta Field Crops commissioner, points out that 18 million bushels of seed will be needed for this year's crop, and the sooner this starts to move to the municipal seed cleaning plants the better. These plants are always working to full capacity around seeding time, and farmers have to wait two or three weeks when the rush is on. But they are not as busy right now, and you should not hesitate to take your seed to these plants at the earliest opportunity. Remember, too, that it pays to move the seed whenever the roads are clear.

Why bother with the seed cleaning plant? Because R. L. Pharis, supervisor of the Alberta Crop Improvement Service, reports that in the 1956 spring seed survey they made tests on a farm where one pound of seed included 144 perennial sow thistle seeds, 228 stinkweed, 1,212 wild oats, 1,716 lamb's quarters and 84 wild buckwheat. All this was supposed to be Olli barley.

Seed testing is also recommended. Germination tests carried out on farm samples in Manitoba have shown that oats and flax, particularly, have suffered weather damage in 1956. L. C. Shuttleworth, Manitoba's Minister of

Agriculture, says there are two ways of testing. One is at home by planting a number of samples of 100 kernels each, and counting the kernels which germinate. The more samples tested, the more accurate the results will be. The other way is to obtain an official germination test and seed grade by sending a two-pound sample of cereal grains, or an eight-ounce flax sample to the Plant Products Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Federal Building, Winnipeg. A representative sample would be ten or twelve selections from different parts of the seed lot. There is a service charge of 75 cents for each sample.

In addition, the Manitoba Soils and Crops Branch advises heavy seed cleaning to remove light, shrivelled kernels, which produce weak seedlings if they germinate. Mercury fungicide is recommended for lightly frozen seed. V

Liming In Ontario

THE advantages of liming an acid soil are that it reduces acidity and enables legume seedlings to establish more easily. It also creates the right environment for bacteria and other beneficial organisms, making more nitrogen and phosphorus available for plant growth. The Field Crops Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, in giving these reasons for liming, says also that lime adds to the supply of available calcium in the soil, helping to replace the large amount taken away continually in the form of milk, beef and crops.

Ontario provides a free soil testing service to determine whether soils require lime. There is a good supply of limestone available, and a subsidy is paid on shipping. Further information can be had from agricultural representatives, the soils department of Ontario Agricultural College, the agricultural schools at Kemptville and Ridgetown, or Field Crops Branch. V

Reducing Machinery Costs

A THOROUGH inspection can be made of all machinery and equipment during the slack period on predominantly grain-growing farms. The Brandon Experimental Farm, Man., points out that machinery is an expensive item of capital equipment on the average farm today, and a check-up will pay dividends not only in time and money saved, but will increase the life and efficiency of a machine.

For example, while the combine is stored, go systematically over the frame, wheels, tires, cylinder, straw decks, slip clutches, V-belts and the motor.

Tractors on the prairies are rated as having an operating life of 10,000 hours, tillage machines 3,000 hours, and harvesting machines 2,000. If a tractor works 600 hours a year, tillage machines 200, and seeding and harvesting machines 160 hours, they would have lives of 16.6, 15 and 12.5 years respectively. It is a good idea to keep a log of each machine to find the cost of operating it, and its value at the end of each year. V



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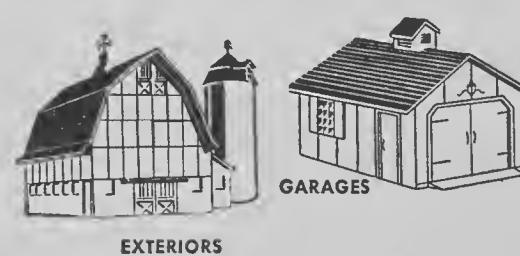
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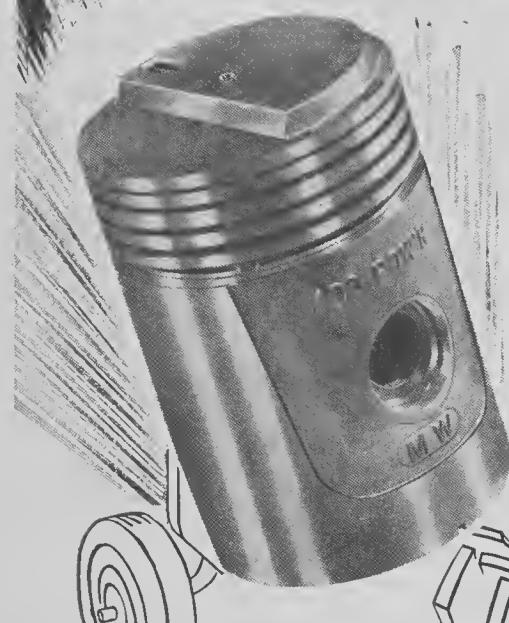
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HORTICULTURE



[Guide photo]

Albert Spangelo, at the age of 77, is still an enthusiastic horticulturist in southern Manitoba, where he specializes in fruit trees and ornamentals.

Relief from Cherry Virus Diseases

NO cure for virus diseases is in sight, but cherry growers may soon get some relief from the costly diseases necrotic ring spot and cherry yellows, which are said to be present in 80 per cent of Canada's cherry orchards, where they can reduce yields by from 20 to 50 per cent.

Dr. G. H. Berkeley, director, Laboratory of Plant Pathology, St. Catharines, recommends planting new orchards to virus-free stock, which, because it is well grown, will be able to resist the disease if attacked. Following the development of a method of indexing virus-free stock, a tree-indexing program was begun four years ago at Vineland and clean budwood has been distributed to nurserymen ever since. Virus-free budwood of Montmorency sour cherry and Lambert, Schmidt and Napoleon sweet cherries is now available, free of charge, to nurserymen and fruit growers, from the Vineland Experimental Station. Virus-free budwood from other varieties will soon be ready. The use of such budwood used for grafting, cuts down infection from 30 per cent on normal stock to about two per cent where virus-free budwood has been used. V

Leaf Analysis Plus Soil Tests

HIGH-QUALITY fruit and maximum yields are becoming more and more important to the commercial fruit grower. Under such circumstances, the more the grower can learn about the actual fertility of his soil, and his success in treating the trees and plants growing on it, the better for his profits at the end of the year.

Dr. J. A. Archibald, of the Vineland Experimental Station, in Ontario, is now developing a leaf analysis service, which is scheduled to be ready for use by growers in 1958. Leaf analysis will supplement, rather than replace soil analysis. "Soil tests," said Dr. Archibald, "show what nutrients should be available to plants, but leaf tests tell what nutrients the plants are receiving."

To provide leaf analysis work will be costly, and it is expected that some token charge will be made for the service. Several samples will probably be required for each variety of trees in an orchard, and each block will need to be tested separately. V

Census of Fruit Trees

IT is expected that by April a complete census of the number, both of trees and vines, and of varieties of apple, peach, pear, plum, cherry and grapes will have been completed in all fruit growing sections of Canada. Purpose of the census is to secure a guide to the fruit resources of the country, and to assist in the marketing of the various fruit crops.

In Ontario, the Extension Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture is conducting the census, which is intended to cover all fruit growing farms of the province. Growers will be asked to make a return of the number of trees and grapevines, as well as varieties of the fruits named. V

Dwarf Apples In Hedgerows

THE experimental farm at Saanichton, Vancouver Island, has experimented with Dwarf apples, grown on Malling IX in hedgerows, to increase yield per acre. Such trees have little roots and require support. Yield per tree is good, but per acre, at normal planting distances, it is not sufficient.

Fifty trees each, of five varieties of early apples, were planted November, 1953, in rows 12 feet apart, and trees four feet apart in the rows, at 907 trees per acre.

In the third growing season, all trees averaged 6.7 pounds per tree, or 6,110 pounds per acre. Most of the crop sold at ten cents per pound, yielding a potential gross of \$600 per acre. This heavy, early yield, will it is hoped, more than compensate for the expense of close planting. Farm officials hope that an average yield of one box per tree may be reached. Trees at Saanichton are summer and winter pruned, and fruit is thinned to one per spur. V

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WORKSHOP

Ideas for The Handyman

These winter jobs for the home and farm are contributed by our readers

To test stack. I use this device for finding the condition of the interior

of a hay or straw stack. I take a willow stick about four feet long, with a good-sized branch at one end. I trim the branch to make a barb, as shown in the illustration. Then, when I want to use it, I shove the stick into the stack to its full extent, and when I pull it out again it brings out some of the hay or straw on the barb, and I can tell what condition it is in.—O.B., Sask.

Holder for sanding disk. An easy way to store sanding disks is by cutting paper pic plates in half, and tacking each half, curved side downwards, to the wall. Put the tacks through the rim of the plate. These make pockets for holding several disks.—J.E.H., Alta.

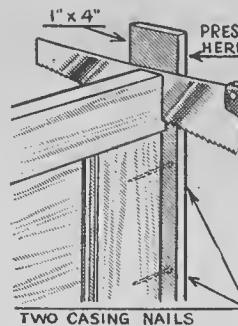
Cleaning paint brushes. I have asked manufacturers how to clean paint brushes, when they are stiff and hard with paint. For nylon brushes, some recommend soaking in sodium phosphate for four or five hours to loosen paint, and then washing with

soap and hot water. Others say use one of several good commercial cleaners, or soak the brush in benzine or turpentine, working the brush in the solution to break up hardened paint, and wash with soap and water. Bristle brushes can be washed with soap and hot water on a scrubbing board, or with paint and varnish remover to soften the hard heel before using the soap, water and scrubbing board. They can also be cleaned with benzine or turpentine, a powdered brush cleaner, or one of the new liquid brush cleaners.—W.F.S., N.J. ✓

Paint mixer. Mixing paint with a flat stick is a tedious job, but a simple device can speed it up. Cut the hook from a coat-hanger, and bend the remaining part into a U-shape. The twisted part of the wire will fit into the chuck of an electric drill, and there you have an excellent paint mixer.—M.M.C., Que.

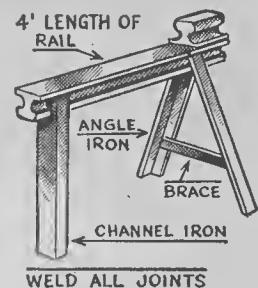
Cutting Cross-Grain From Door.

When only about $\frac{1}{8}$ " of cross-grain has to be removed from the vertical stiles of a door, to shorten it, this is the quickest and easiest way. Take a 3-foot piece of 1x4 and nail it to the bottom edge of the door, placing the two nails in such a way that they will not interfere with the sawing. Now take a fine-toothed saw and let it ride between the door and the 1x4, allowing the latter to serve as a guide. If you want to take off a little more of the cross-grain, just press against the board from the outside with your hand. After both stiles are treated in this way, remove the board and plane off the bottom edge of the panel.—H.E.F., Texas. ✓



Farm anvil. Here is a cheap and easy way to make a heavy farm anvil, which I find really handy.

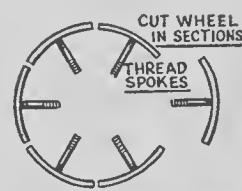
Take a four-foot length of railroad iron, and weld a very short piece of the same type of iron to one end of it, as illustrated. This top part of the anvil is supported at the heavier end by two legs of angle iron braced with a third length. The opposite end is supported by a length of channel iron as shown.—D.H., Man. ✓



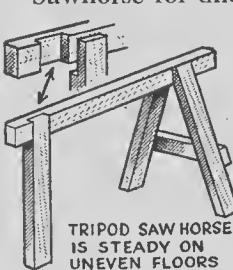
Solid building.

If you need to hold a sill solidly on a building, here's a way to do it, using an old iron wheel with rounded spokes.

Take away the hub of the wheel, and then cut each spoke and a section of the rim in equal parts. Thread the ends of the spokes and set as many as you need in concrete. The sill can then be bolted securely into place as shown.—G.M.E., Alta. ✓



Sawhorse for uneven floor.



It makes your work much harder if a sawhorse wobbles when it's used on an uneven floor. This can be prevented by having three legs on the sawhorse instead of the usual four. Set it up as shown in the illustration, jointing the single leg. The measurements are roughly 36" length, 24" height, and 24" between the bases of the pair of legs.—M.G.E., Alta. ✓

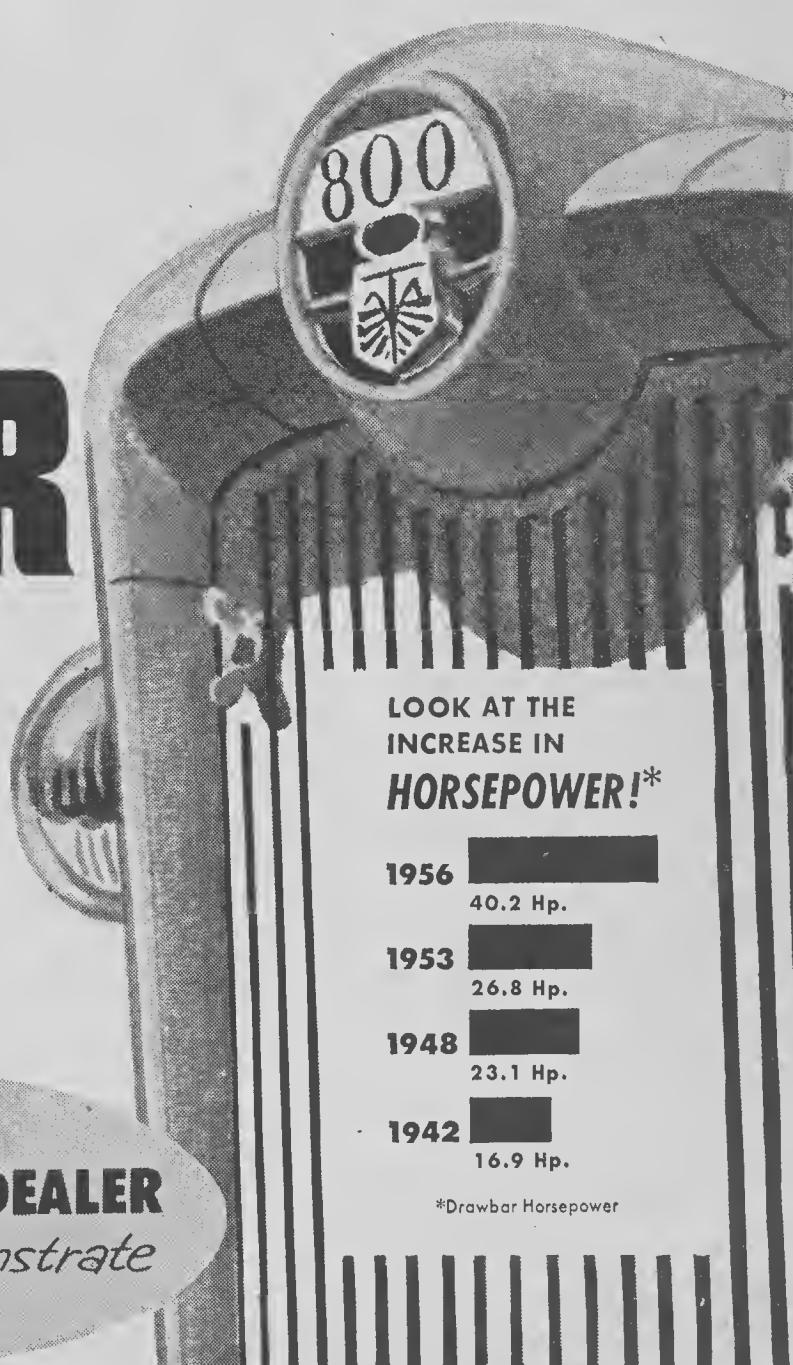
Painting a chair. If you are painting a chair, you should turn it upside down, and paint all the lower part (now on top) first. Having done this, you can turn the chair right side up and paint the top. It is much easier to handle this way.—H.S., Mich. ✓

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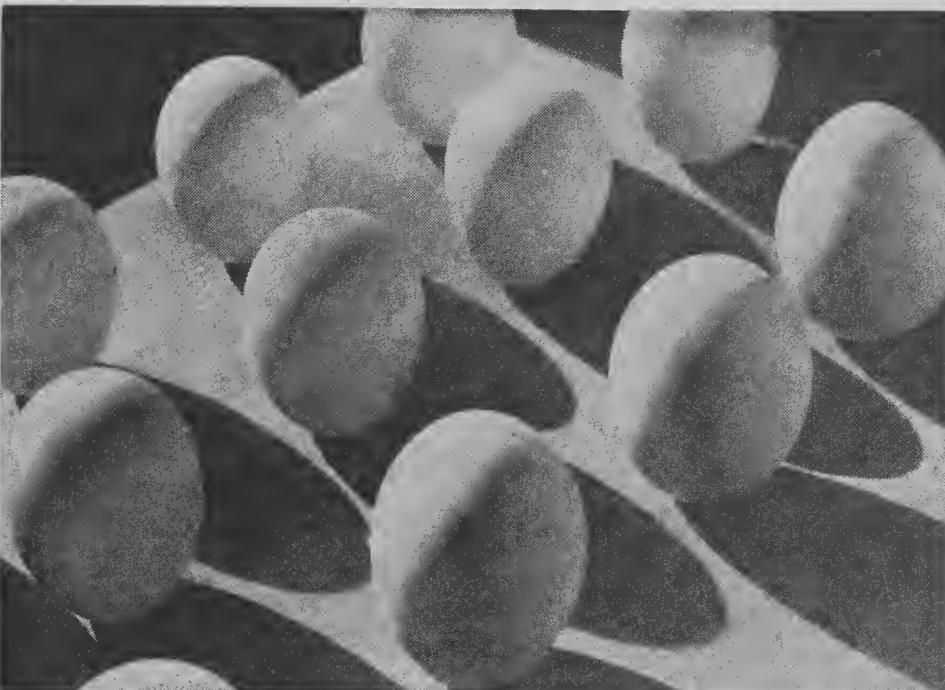
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POULTRY

[Paul Hadley photo.
Care in egg handling, making sure that they are clean, are packed and stored properly, and shipped frequently, can add up to higher profit margins.

**Check
Your Egg Handling**

Cool eggs for at least 12 hours, and then pack them according to size and color in clean Keyes trays with the large end up, says R. McMillan, Alberta's poultry commissioner. Remove the cracked and excessively dirty eggs, but if you have provided fresh nesting material, and you keep the litter dry, the eggs will be clean, in all probability, and will not need attention with steel wool or an emery brush.

Unless you prefer the top layer to become scrambled eggs, don't nail covers to the center partitions of the egg cases, but tack them to the ends of the cases. If you want the eggs to be fresh on arrival, ship to the wholesaler not less than twice a week, mark the cases with your name and address and their destination clearly, and if eggs are produced for commercial purposes only, remove all the males, because germination will start at 68° F.

Choose transportation which will give protection from too high or too low temperatures, will ensure minimum and careful handling, and prompt delivery to the receiver's door.

**Vitamins for
Disease Resistance**

The vitamins needed for poultry growth are fairly well established, but there is still some doubt about the amounts needed for greatest resistance to diseases. Work at the North Carolina Experiment Station, in which chicks were given fowl typhoid bacteria, showed that although they were having a ration containing ample vitamins for rapid growth, only 10 per cent survived. When the level of vitamins was increased to ten times that of the control feed, with vitamin C added, 40 per cent survived.

The vitamins were divided into three groups—water soluble D vitamins; fat vitamins A, D, E, and K; and vitamin C. Each group fed singly at high levels did not increase resistance to fowl typhoid, but fed in

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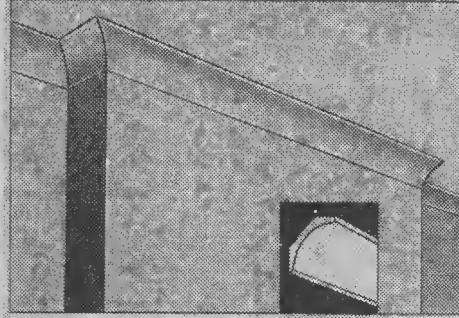
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WHAT'S NEW



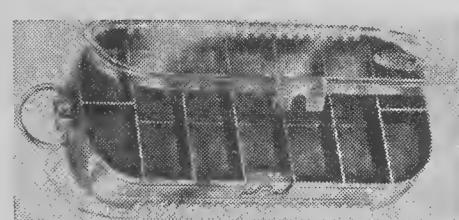
This new ammonia applicator, with a tank capacity of 250 gallons, is said to save time and money in fewer refill stops, and performs tillage and applicator operations simultaneously. Controls are in reach of the tractor seat. (J. I. Case Co.) (154) ✓



Stonebord Cove, a decorative gypsum feature for finishing off the junction of walls and ceilings, is easily applied to gypsum wallboard or gypsum plaster, says the manufacturer. It is for construction or remodelling, and covers cracks between wall and ceiling. (Western Gypsum Products Ltd.) (155) ✓



This rubber-cushioned, double-traction, triple-wearing tire chain will fit any heavy duty vehicle, the manufacturers claim. This includes tractors, trucks and snowplows. The cross chains snap off and on without tools, and turn automatically to give more miles. (The Thomas Co.) (156) ✓



A new pocket-size, plastic fishing tackle kit, said to make lures clearly visible at all times, has piano-type hinges on the two lids to overcome hinge breakage. The center section has 16 compartments, and there is a belt loop. (Old Pal Inc.) (157) ✓

Something really new for the home owner has just been introduced by the company which has pioneered in the development of most of the major innovations in the miraculous world of plastic laminates. If you are interested in walls or counter tops . . . whether you're the do-it-yourself type or prefer to have-it-done . . . this new product will enable you to get results never before available.

Here are the details. The Arborite Company Limited has just announced the introduction of a new exclusive development in the field of plastic laminates. It's called Twin-Trim. It is a metal moulding with a matching Arborite finish designed specially for use with Arborite 10 (1/10" Grade).

Arborite Twin-Trim provides the ultra-professional look you've always wanted

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These colour-match mouldings are ideal for use on all wall and counter installations, in bathrooms, kitchens, recreation rooms, hotels and restaurants, hospitals, elevator interiors, etc. They also combine very effectively with Arborite Curvavtop, the famous one-piece counter top and splashback.

Arborite Twin-Trim is applied in the same manner as standard metal channel mouldings. The new colour-match mouldings, available in eight-foot lengths, are made for use on flat surfaces only; and bending around corners is not recommended.

This new exclusive product is another of the many innovations carried out in the field of plastic laminates by The Arborite Company Limited, Canada's leading manufacturer in the industry.

Actually, you have to see Twin-Trim to really appreciate the difference it can make in your re-modelling or building program. Ask for full information about Twin-Trim at your local lumber or building supply dealer's, or write: The Arborite Company Limited, Montreal 32, Quebec.

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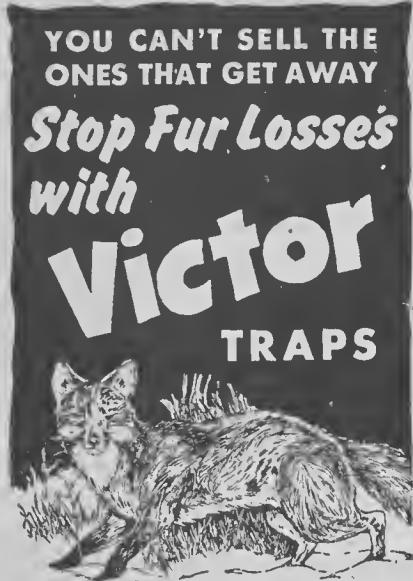
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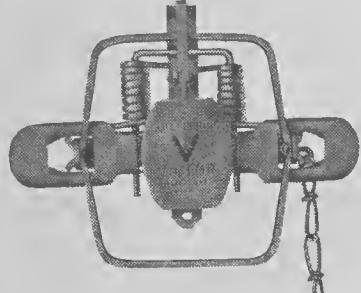
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For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, giving the key number shown at the end of each item, as—(17).



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Today

Young People

On the farm and at home



Assisted by a thoughtful guest, teen hostess serves fruit punch to thirsty dancers.

In a Teen-Age World

ABRIGHT new year stretches out before us—a happy, successful year for all, we hope. Young people look forward to a great many activities in the new year—skating, curling, hockey, club meetings and square dancing and later on picnics, baseball, achievement days, swimming, summer fairs and graduation. Also there's school work to be kept up to date and a share of farm chores to be attended to cheerfully.

In all these activities young people want to be popular with their pals, to be the kind of person everyone likes. How do some teen-agers manage to know just what to say, how to act and what to do on any occasion and in any company? What's the secret behind their poise?

Look around at the girls and boys who are popular with the crowd. You'll probably discover that they are well-mannered, casual, friendly and interested in sports, hobbies, news and music. They are neat and well

groomed and they like other people. Most important they are interesting people to know. The really popular boy or girl is nice to everybody as well as having his own special friends.

Now if you're ready to stop dreaming about that person "you would like to be" and want to start doing, follow the helpful tips suggested by Riverton 4-H clothing club in their display, "Grooming for Teens." Briefly here are their suggestions for personal cleanliness: plenty of soap and water for the face; use a hand lotion and nail file often; shampoo hair at least once a week; brush hair every day; use a good deodorant; practice good posture.

The Riverton members emphasized the following points about clothing: study and choose the right clothes for the right occasion; keep clothes clean, mended and pressed; wear jewelry only with suitable outfits; wear well-fitted shoes, have stocking seams straight and free from runs; make sure hemline is even and proper length.

But that's not the whole story of popularity. Manners, conduct and



Personal cleanliness, immaculate clothing are essential to good grooming.



Fresh as a daisy in colorful Scotch plaid outfit with appropriate accessories.

thoughtfulness are a very real part of you and just as important as your appearance. We asked some boys for their "pet peeves" about girls—and got them: some girls expect a boy to spend too much money on them; being on time is something most girls don't know the meaning of; I dislike girls putting on make-up and combing their hair in public; I want my girl to dress in a style that's right for her not just because it's the style.

And the girls were equally frank in their comments about boys: I shudder at the color combinations some boys wear; I'd like to meet a boy who has some conversational ability; some boys go to dances and then spend the evening talking to each other while the girls dance with each other; I dislike boys who drive too fast and screech their tires; some boys walk up behind you and pull your hair or hit you, I don't like show-offs and boys who are loud.

So brush up on your appearance and manners. Become interested in people, thoughtful and considerate of their feelings. Remember, too—"the surest way to gain a friend is to be one."



Club Notes

THE 1957 conference and annual meeting of the Canadian Council on 4-H Clubs will be held March 3-6, in the Fort Cumberland Hotel, Amherst, Nova Scotia.

Manitoba: Wawanese Wonder Workers Clothing Club and Forrest Food Club rolled up the highest efficiency score to win the coveted T. Eaton Co. trophy. For their demonstration "Accent on Color," Orma Jeffries and Patsy Dodds of the Stockton Clothing Club were presented with the Martinson shield. Elaine Pankiw of Miami won the \$300 prize for her essay, "How We Control Weeds on Our Farm." Elaine competed against club members from the prairie provinces and 14 American states to win this award sponsored by the North Central Weed Control Conference.

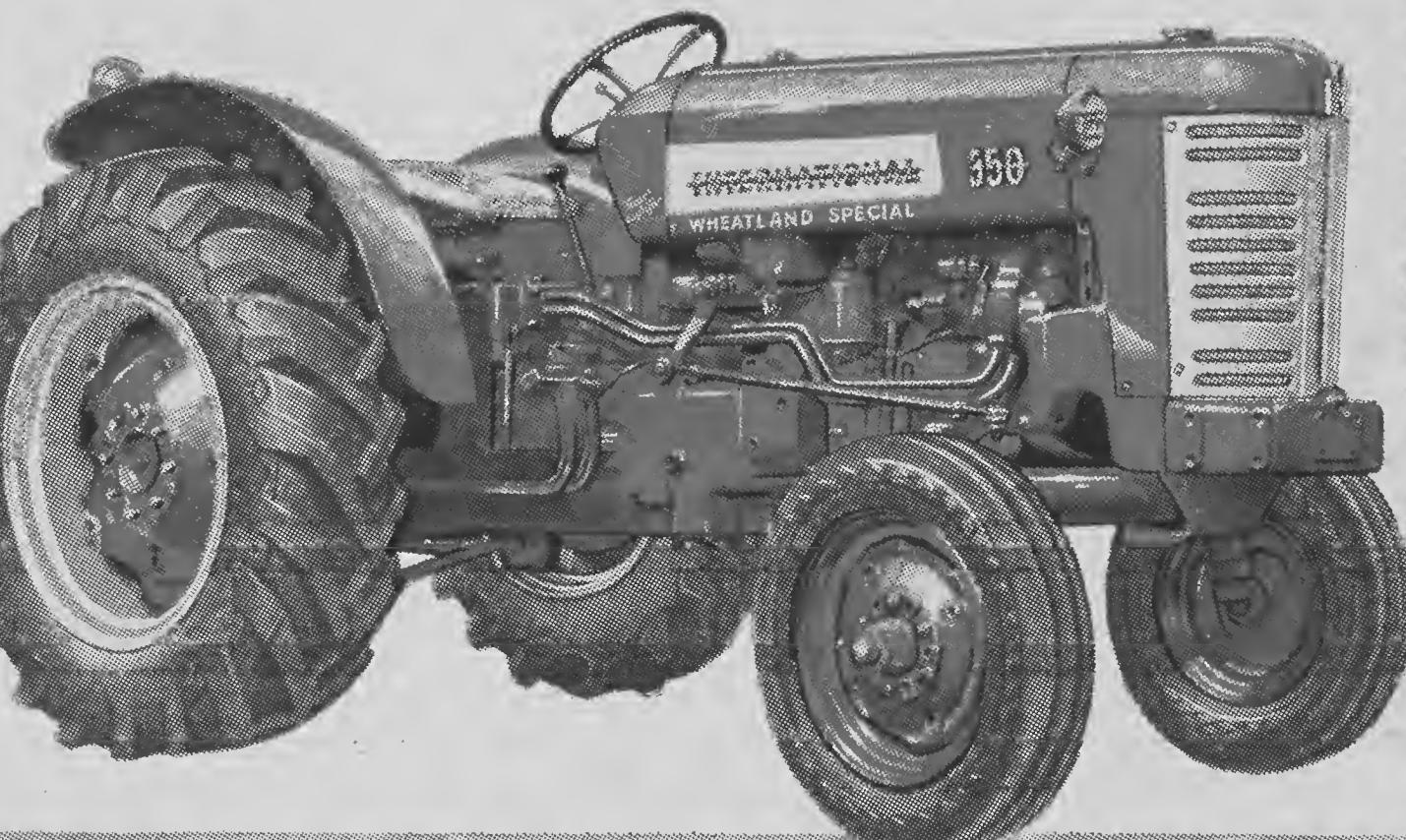
Ontario: "Wage War on Rats" is a new project undertaken by some of the Junior Farmer clubs. They are endeavoring to promote better quality and cleaner farm products which will mean better returns to the farmer. By displays, posters and assistance from press and radio, the young farmers are gaining support for this campaign to better their community.

Quebec: The Forestry Association announces that laureates for forestry contests were awarded to J. Onesime Pelletier, St. Aubert (woodlot section), and Leo Tousignant, Ste. Thecle (maple grove section). Contests were opened this year in the South Shore and St. Maurice regions.

British Columbia: Harry Bailey, Chilliwack, won the Lions Club \$50 award for the most outstanding 4-H member in the province.

While living up to the 4-H motto—*Make the Best Better*—a New Hampshire hen owned by a 4-H member, Virgil Pennington, became confused as to the meaning of the 4 in 4-H. She laid a four-yolk egg. Two-yolk eggs are not unusual, a three-yolker is regarded as a freakish rarity—and a four-yolker is almost unheard of, even from a 4-H flock!

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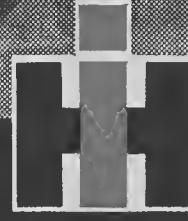
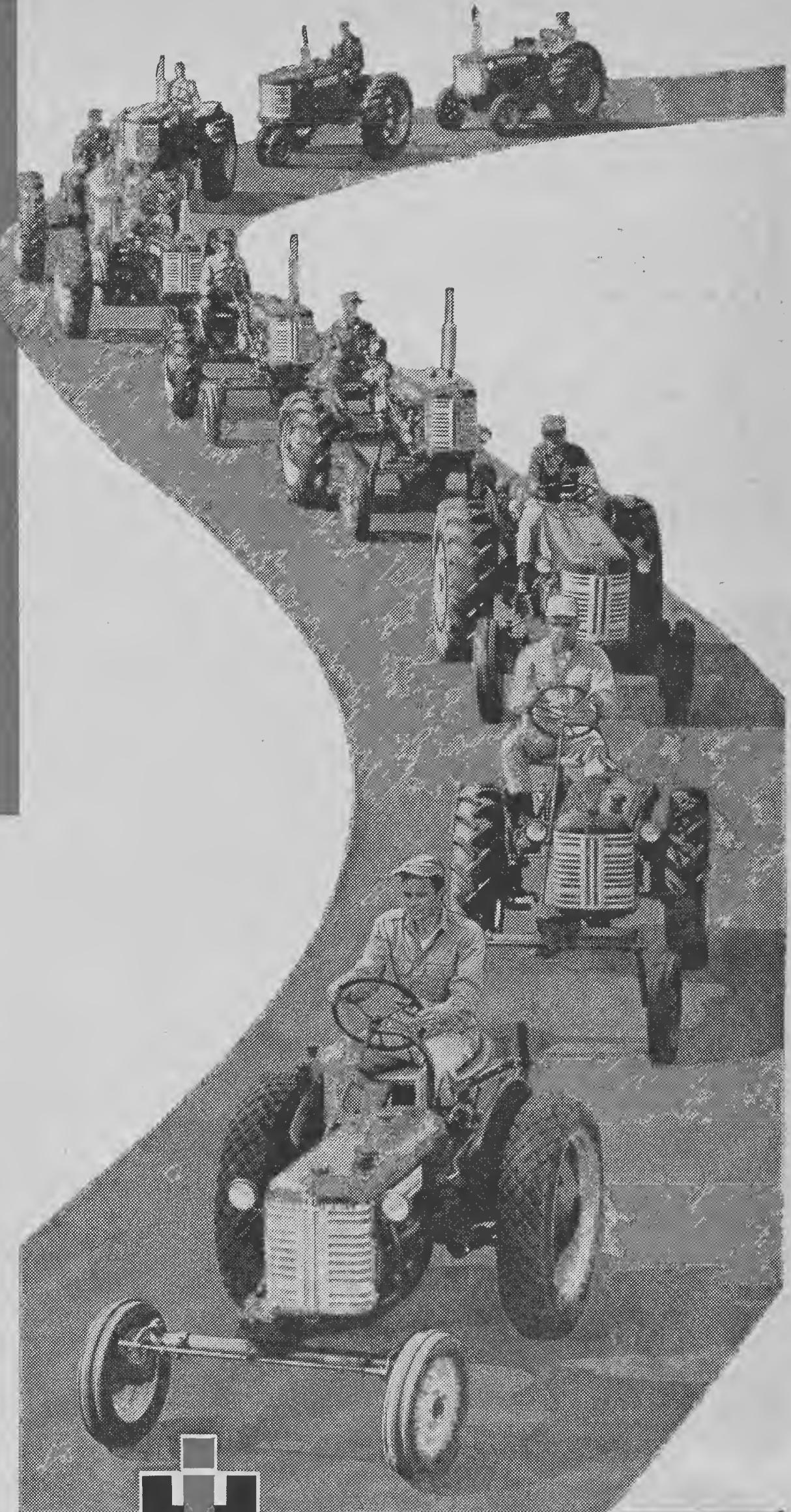


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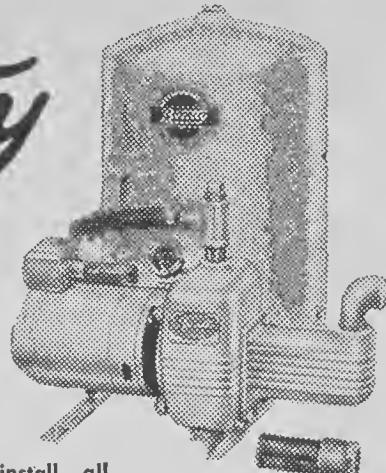
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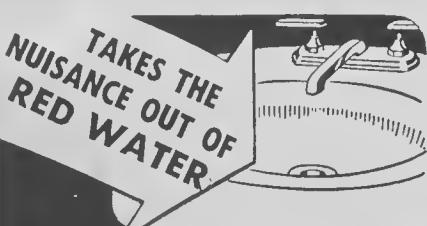
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Return to Yesterday

Story and photographs
by C. V. FAULKNER



Walter Spreeman fires up the old steamer ready for plowing. Elmer is standing by.



The plowing gets under way. There is no lack of help on the Spreeman farm when the steamer goes into action. Young and old set to work with a will.

WALTER and Elmer Spreeman, who farm just west of Olds, Alberta, have an inborn love for steam engines. Although the brothers are equipped with the latest power machines, they keep an old Case 2265 steam tractor in operation each year, just for the sheer joy they get out of running it. When the steamer goes into action, there's always a quota of young boys on hand for the occasion, as well as a number of not-so-young boys who are drawn by memories of days long past.

The old steamer was the last of its type to be brought into Alberta. Every season, the Spreemans thresh about 50 acres of grain with the machine, using a Case-Steele separator that made its debut in the Foot-



It turns the sod as neatly and effortlessly as an up-to-date tractor does.

hills province in 1908. Capacity of this antique combination is some 4,000 bushels of wheat, or 7,000 bushels of oats per day.

Last August, The Country Guide was invited to watch the steamer break a field of sod with a modern eight-bottom plow. With a toot of the whistle, and a belch of black smoke, the oldster moved off, its ball governor gaily awhirl. It left a trail of neatly turned sod, as smoothly and effortlessly as the latest internal combustion-engined machine. Chugging up and down the field with Elmer Spreeman at the controls, and brother Walter plying the coal shovel, the steamer voiced a soft, steady "tump, tump." As one farmer said nostalgically, "That sound takes me back—a long way back."



Part of the eight-bottom plow seen from the platform of the Case 2265.



The Spreeman brothers are equipped with the latest power machines, but to them and their friends there's nothing like the music of the old steamer.

Co-operative Machinery Group

OUR farmers at Sussex, New Brunswick, found a way to beat the high cost of forage-harvesting equipment. Hillis Queen, Doug and George Chambers, and J. E. McFarlane, all have good grass farms, and run cattle. And in 1953, they decided that it would pay to put up grass silage. But to buy four sets of equipment was out of the question. They decided to buy the equipment co-operatively. They put up \$600 each, to buy a harvester and blower, and each of them built a wagon for handling the forage.

McFarlane's son, Doug, runs the harvester. Each farmer has at least one tractor, and the group have been thoroughly pleased with the way the enterprise has worked out.

Since they haven't been setting aside depreciation, they decided to begin that this year, for repairs that will soon be needed, and for replacement.

This co-op is doubly significant because grass and hay are such major crops in the area. For instance, the McFarlanes run about 40 head of cows on 200 acres of land; had 17 ponies on hand when visited by The Country Guide in June; and were able

to grow enough hay and pasture to meet all their needs, except for some hay bought standing. V

Love is for the living

Continued from page 13

She unpacked her bag and began to put her things into the squat chest of drawers. When she pulled out the first drawer she saw something lying against the papered bottom. She picked it up — flimsy, weightless. A single nylon stocking with a vast, irreparable run.

She stood holding the stocking, remembering, and she thought, "I shouldn't have come. I shouldn't." For it was no different now than it had been that early August evening when she had packed to go back to New York at the end of her three weeks' vacation.

David had been somewhere out on the farm, working with the men and boys who lived and messed in the long shed during the summer months, helping harvest and pack the vegetables that supplied the voracious demands of the hotels. Uncle Clayte had stood on the rag rug, watching.

Elinor had not looked at him. She had taken up her stockings, thrown this one aside. "Going to throw away the other one?" he said.

She had shaken her head. "I can match it to another odd one and have a good pair."

She had lifted her head and found his blue eyes deeply upon her and she had known what he meant. She had said, "It's not the same, Uncle Clayte. Not for me and not for David. We're not nylons or . . ."

"Or busted egg crates. Maybe not, and yet . . ." He had let it go at that. He had not said another word even on the drive to the train, but here was her discarded stocking lying where she was sure to see it, and that was Uncle Clayte's doing.

Elinor changed her clothes and went downstairs to busy herself with pie-making.

It was good to be at Adams' Farm once again, but she thought it would have been better if she had not come. For it made her think of herself and David and of what had happened. And everything went around and around in her mind and came out just the same—just as impossible.

IT had begun in July because Kallman-Kaye gave senior employees three weeks' vacation and insisted they take them. Elinor hadn't wanted to go. She had worked at Kallman-Kaye since she was eighteen. Five years now. She had gone from typist



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Shown here is the type of L.A. farm welding and cutting equipment that will save you valuable time and money. Spare parts and complete supplies, plus service, are available at all times. For complete information without obligation, just visit your nearest L.A. branch or dealer in Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton—or fill in and mail this coupon today to the nearest L.A. branch in your district.

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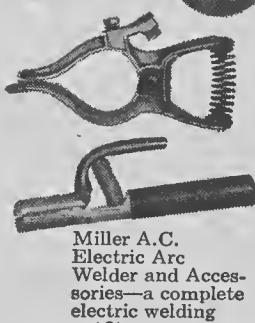
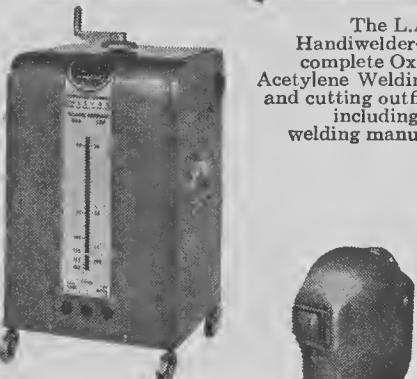
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to secretary within six months; had begun to write copy by the time she met Tommy.

The war was on then. New York was filled with young people in and out of uniform. Elinor's Officers' Club work had been fun. She was nineteen and she never lacked for dates. But after Tommy Breese came into the Officers' Club one lazy afternoon she hadn't had time for anyone else.

Tommy was eager and laughing, with bronze hair and blue eyes and a zest for life that carried you right along with him. Tommy fell in love with her the moment he saw her, and it was no different with Elinor.

They were engaged exactly one week before they got married. In that week Tommy helped Elinor find the apartment. They were married, with some of Elinor's friends from K and K as the wedding party. It was spur of the moment and no one could come from Indiana. There was a week's honeymoon here in the mountains, and Tommy was gone. And he didn't come back.

That was why, this past July, when Mr. Kaye had come into Elinor's cubbyhole and said, "You need a vacation. You're going to take yours. That's an order." Elinor had packed her bags and left the city's sweltering heat. And she had gone to the same hotel where she and Tommy had spent their honeymoon, their whole life together.

She hadn't thought about it. She had phoned for a reservation, got one, and gone. It seemed only natural. It was almost four years since Tommy had gone down in flames over the quiet checkerboard of the English countryside, but he was still Tommy to her—still the only man in her life.

Things had changed. People who had been terribly sympathetic and understanding when the war was on were inclined to be impatient now. Elinor did not blame them; did not expect them to feel as she felt, see with her eyes. Tommy had been the first boy she had ever loved. She felt there couldn't be anyone else for her. And if that was the way it was going to be, what people thought made no difference. Other women in other wars had lost their men and been faithful to them all their lives. She would be so and yet be of service.

High Mount Hotel was different without Tommy. The other two vacations since Tommy had gone she had spent, one with her family, the other with Tommy's. But she had felt that they were beginning to feel the healing touch of time; beginning to wonder why she didn't take notice of the men who looked at her with interested eyes. That was why she hadn't gone back to Indiana this time. Yet, coming to High Mount had been a mistake.

It wasn't so much that she missed Tommy. She was used to that. She could think of him; of the things they had done; of his arms about her, with a soft tenderness and pleasure that held little pain now. It wasn't that. It was all the young people, not much younger than she, but so different; interested in one another, in flirtations and parties. They had wanted her to join in but she couldn't. She had her man. There couldn't be any other for her.

The Capes, who ran the hotel, remembered her and, of course, they had to be told that Tommy was not

coming back—ever. They had been kind, but it was more than one could expect of normal people that they would not mention it, if not to the summer folk, then at least to their intimates.

THAT was how Uncle Clayte Adams must have learned. Elinor had become conscious of him one evening when there was an outdoor supper down at the lake. She hadn't gone.

She saw Uncle Clayte as a neat, spare old man who came out onto the porch and sat down beside her. She had seen him several times before when his farm truck brought loads of vegetables and dressed chickens.

Uncle Clayte had sat down in the wicker chair beside Elinor. The sound of laughter had floated from the lake, and Uncle Clayte gestured with one blue-veined hand. "Mrs. Cape tells me you're not much interested in that summer stuff."

Elinor's eyes had widened. Uncle Clayte nodded. "Says you were asking about a quiet farm hereabouts. Reason I mention it is I have just that. If all you want is rest and quiet, I could give it to you."

She had looked at him, and Uncle Clayte had smiled and his dry voice went on, "Can't take a paying guest. Might pay you, though, if you're worth it."

Elinor had found herself smiling, too. She hadn't been able to help herself. His odd friendliness was infectious. "Just what would I have to do? I have a job, you know. It's waiting for me in New York."

"Sure. This is only temporary. Adams' Farm. Mine and my nephew's. No guests. Summer workers and help eat in their own quarters. We eat at the house. Kind of busy these days, and we don't eat well's we might. Solid foods comes up from the cook's shack, but oddments are missing. Pies and such. Can you cook?"

That was when Elinor's smile had frankly become a laugh, a throaty sound that made Uncle Clayte beam. "I can bake a pie."

"Sour cherries still holding out in the hillside patch. Nothing nicer than a cherry pie with lots of heavy cream." His eyes had wrinkled at the corners. "It'd be all right with Mrs. Cape. Like to come?"

Involuntarily Elinor found herself saying, "I might give it a try," and Uncle Clayte got to his feet. "Get your bags 'n stuff. Got to get you up early in the morning to start slaving."

She remembered most of all how quiet, how peaceful it had been. No radios blasting or juke box grinding out the popular tune of the moment over and over again. Just the deep twang of bullfrogs in the distance. She had put her things away in this room, breathed deeply of the night air coming fragrant through the open windows. Two minutes after she got into the bed, which was so different from the hotel bed, she was fast asleep.

SUNLIGHT streamed in when she woke. Birds were vocal in the oaks and maples outside. She had felt a sudden lift in her spirits. She had dressed quickly, washed her face in stinging cold water because somehow

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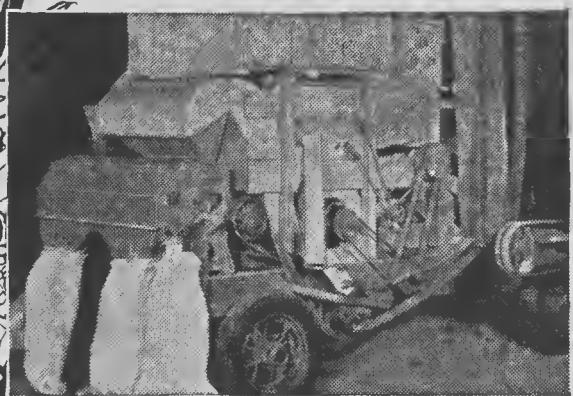
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it seemed called for, and gone running down the stairs.

Uncle Clayte was in the big kitchen having a final cup of coffee. He'd nodded approval. "Shining face suits you. We'll tan it a bit for you, and you'll be beautiful."

Elinor had laughed. "I'm not beautiful now?"

There was an odd seriousness in his eyes if not in his voice. "You could be. Very easy, Mrs. Breese." He'd shaken his head. "That sounds pretty awful solemn. I'm going to call you Elly."

That was when David had come. Elinor had heard his deep voice. The screen door banged and David said. "Those radishes . . ."

He had stopped when he caught sight of Elinor. His dark brows had come down, his lips gone suddenly still. Yet she had been conscious of the way his presence had brought life to the room.

Uncle Clayte said easily, "This is my nephew, David Adams, Mrs. Breese." To David he'd said, "Elinor's going to help us a couple of weeks."

David had only nodded. His "How do you do?" was coldly formal. He had looked at Uncle Clayte as if she were not there. "Those radishes . . ."

Uncle Clayte had got to his feet. "Be right with you, lad." David had turned and gone out, all six feet of him, and Uncle Clayte had said, "You just scout around, Elly. Poke and peek, and this afternoon I'll show you where those cherries are. Don't take that slaving I spoke about too seriously. Want you should enjoy yourself."

When he was gone Elinor had poked and peeked. She'd found a dust mop and rags and gone to work. Upstairs first. The rooms were clean, but not woman-clean. Uncle Clayte's was shipshape and Spartanly bare. Elinor had remade the bed. Then she had gone into the next room. She had known immediately that it was David's. The books, the pictures, and album of sporting prints. The framed diploma from Cornell Agriculture. Photographs on the neatly ordered bureau. A man and a woman, certainly David's father and mother, for there was something of Uncle Clayte in the man's face. And one other photograph in a silver frame. A girl. Very young and pretty, with a wistful, smiling face.

She had asked Uncle Clayte that afternoon when they picked the bright red cherries while birds scolded from nearby branches. Uncle Clayte said, as he wiped his forehead with a blue handkerchief, "Mar'gret. She died in childbirth while David was overseas. The winter after his folks went. The baby died, too."

Elinor had turned shocked, wide eyes upon him. "How awful!" She felt quick sympathy rise in her, a deep understanding of how David must feel, even, with a sort of self-reproach, how much worse his tragedy was than hers.

"Made him kind of bitter," Uncle Clayte said mildly, and Elinor turned on him, her lips quivering, and demanded. "Why shouldn't it?"

"You don't quarrel with life," Uncle Clayte had said. "It gets you nowhere. You accept what comes and you make the best of it." He had dropped his handful of fruit into the basket she held. "There, that'll be enough for pies. I'll have one of the boys come and pick the rest for can-

ning. These won't last much longer. What the birds don't get'll rot."

She knew now why Uncle Clayte had asked her to stay at Adams' Farm, and she even felt a little pleasure that he thought so much of her at first sight. But she knew better than Uncle Clayte. There could never be anyone else for David, any more than there could be for her.

DAVID was quiet at supper that long twilight, but his eyes were not so distant, his face not so set, and Elinor knew that Uncle Clayte had told him about her. He said little, but he praised the pie that Uncle Clayte enthused over, and Elinor flushed with pleasure, told herself they weren't just being polite. The pie was delicious.

She played chess with Uncle Clayte after the dishes were done. She beat him easily. Uncle Clayte couldn't cope with her knights. "Blast them horses. I never can figure them." David put down his paper to come and watch, pipe in mouth, and when Elinor sacrificed her queen and moved her king's bishop to mate, he said, "Let me take her on, Uncle Clayte."

Uncle Clayte got up, still shaking his head, and went out. David was a different player. Bold, ever on the attack. Elinor found herself pressed to keep from being trapped against her backward pawns. They drew the first game, and David said, "You play very well. Your husband taught you?"

"My father," Elinor said, not looking up from arranging her men. "My husband—I—we had only a week together."

She saw his hand grow still on the piece he held. She heard him say, deeply, "Meg and I—we had six months."

Elinor raised her glossy head and looked at him, seeing reflected in his eyes the despair, the futility she knew so well. He asked, "How old was he?"

"Twenty-one," Elinor said, and David nodded. "Meg was, too." His head bent over the board. He said almost harshly, "Your move."

From then on David was friendly, understanding. There was even, in his quiet smile, acknowledgment of Uncle Clayte's wiles. He shared with her an indulgence, a willingness to let the old man enjoy his harmless intrigue.

She drove with Scott and David to Middletown on the Thursday afternoon to do the week's shopping before the summer folk cleaned out the stores by Friday noon. She bought herself blue dungarees in the Farm Shop, and realized suddenly how tanned she had become. And she felt happy and alive.

There was so much to be done. A house to take care of and a million other things. She even grudged the time given to sleep, though she slept the moment she got into bed and woke with the first rays of the sun, refreshed and eager to be about.

Day flowed into day insensibly and contentedly. At night there was the delicious lassitude engendered by a day's work well done. The summer help, school boys and college lads, sang nostalgically down by their long shed. There were chess games and talk on the darkened porch, while the fireflies gleamed and the whippoorwills came so close as to be a nuisance with their clamor. Uncle Clayte seemed to have forgotten any ideas of matchmaking and David was like a brother.

IT turned very hot that second week. It got so that the afternoons were intolerable.

Elinor was lying in the hammock under a motionless maple one afternoon, in shorts and a flimsy blue and white shirt, when David came by. He did not see her and Elinor lifted a languid hand and said, "Hi."

David's blue eyes grew darker as he looked at her. For a moment Elinor thought he was going to turn away without a word. Then the shadow passed from his face. His smile was swift, deepening the crease in his chin. "How about a swim?"

Elinor sat up so abruptly that the hammock tipped. Only David's quick hand saved her. She said as she got to her feet and David's grasp dropped away, "Is there anything but hot water around?"

"You remember that," David told her. "We might get a few trout for supper first. I'll rig you a line."

When Elinor had gathered her swimming shorts and bra from the oven that was her room, David was waiting with the eight-foot rods, creel across his shoulder, net tucked under his arm. He caught her questioning grey-green gaze and smiled. "I've got my trunks on underneath."

He led her past an ancient stone wall to a daisy-filled meadow and through its close heat to a clump of oaks and maples with masses of laurel green and thick beneath. In the gloom of the grove Elinor could see the still, dark water of a small pool. David touched her arm as they got into the dimness. "I'd better tie your fly here. Trout are very suspicious. You've got to sneak up on them."

The silken and feathered barb was a Cahill, David said. He led her by the hand to a moss-stained oak bole close by the pool. His voice sank to a whisper: "Stay behind this. Just flick your rod." He pointed to a spot under the laurels on the opposite side. "Try and drop your fly right there."

Elinor looked at the quiet water a little doubtfully and moved her arm. The tip of the rod swayed, the silken leader gleamed momentarily. She did not see the tiny fly descend but there was a dimple on the water, and then suddenly a quiet swirl. Eleanor thought, "What on earth happened?" and then she hadn't time to think. The rod jerked in her hand. The tip bent, the reel sang, and David cried, "Keep him up. Don't let him get down to his nest or you'll lose him."

"What'll I do?" Elinor fairly screamed, and David said, "Reel in. Keep your line taut. Don't worry about landing him. I'll take care of that."

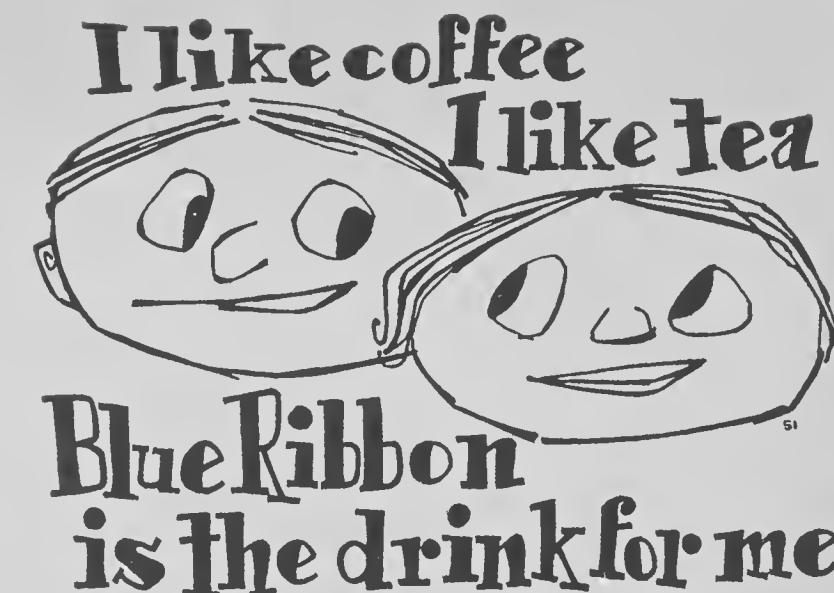
The fish broke water, gleaming iridescent, and Elinor's breath went at the sight of him. Somehow she found the handle of the reel. The fish darted this way and that, ever trying to get back to the bank. Then suddenly it was over. Suddenly, white belly and red-rooted fins showing, he came to the bank. David stooped and slipped the net under him and stood up. Elinor could hardly breathe. "Oh, David, he's enormous."

"Fifteen inches. Over a pound, I bet." He carefully deposited the trout in the creel opening before he freed the fly. The creel began to jump as the trout started to struggle again.

David caught two smaller fish. Then he said, "Let's not be greedy." He gestured. "Choose your dressing room," and set down the net and laden creel, propped the rods against a tree. As Elinor was fastening her bra in the shelter of the laurels she heard a splash and David's whoop. She was so hot and damp her fingers fumbled with the leaves. She said at last, "Thank goodness," and ran to the pool.

She didn't pause. She couldn't wait for the water to take her from the heat. She jumped.

Icy green gloom beat at her. She came up gasping, breathless, to see David grinning at her, his hair



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plastered over his forehead. When her paralyzed throat would work she wailed, "Oh, David, you put ice in it."

"Told you to remember your words. Swim. You'll soon get used to it."

IT was grand. Elinor was cool even after they got back to the house. After supper a thunderstorm came down from the Mount to momentarily dispel the heat and put out the lights. The sound of water trickling from the eaves when the crash and gleam had gone, the scent of the grateful earth breathing sweetly, the sense of David and Uncle Clayte close by, were things Elinor knew she would never forget.

There was little time left them. A few days and she would go back. She did not think of it. She had found friends, and that was something to be grateful for. She and David swam when work was finished. Or they went up to a clearing on the Mount and looked down at the valley that had been in Adams' hands for more than a century.

The heat spell still held that last late afternoon they sat there. The sun had gone behind the mountain and the long twilight was creeping slowly across the valley. Elinor sat relaxed in the tall grass with David close beside her.

They had said nothing for a long time, and Elinor found herself thinking of David. Realizing that he was, indeed, terribly handsome and most appealing. She could consider him quite objectively, for he could mean nothing to her. Not that way. She could even recognize the male appeal he possessed, but dispassionately.

She turned her head in the still hotness and found David's eyes upon her, suddenly she was in his arms and his lips were hard against hers and her arms about his neck. For a moment. For a long moment only. Elinor was not sure whether it was she or David who broke away. She only knew that she had stared at him, her heart sick within her, and that David had looked back at her, white-faced under his tan. It was David who said, with bitter self-loathing, "The biological urge. Forgive me, Elinor."

"It's all right," Elinor had said, shaken. "It wasn't only you, David."

That was all they had said. They had walked back to the house in silence, and David had been up and away when Elinor rose in the morning. She had not seen him after that. He did not come in to lunch and she was gone before supper . . .

SHE thought of it now as she waited for the pies to be done. She had gone back to New York and the apartment, to K. and K., and she had not heard from David, from Adams' farm.

Elinor realized how much she had missed all this in the two months she had been away; knew it was Adams' that had made the city and her work seem so empty and trivial. It was David, however, who was lacking. David's friendly smile, his magnetic presence. But she and David, after that day, could not go back to their easy friendship. And they could go nowhere else.

She went to bed early, slept deeply and soundly. It was grand to wake to a fine day and turn cosily for another brief nap. But she knew she would

have to go back early and not come again.

She and Uncle Clayte picked purple wild grapes after lunch when the sun was warm and golden. Their baskets were heavy when they started back to the house. Elinor said, "I found the stocking."

"Knew you would," Uncle Clayte said mildly, and Elinor turned her dark-lashed eyes on him.

"It isn't any different, Uncle Clayte. I want you to know that. I'm sure it's the same with David. I know how—how people might feel. David's young and there's the farm and the family name. I'm young, too, and I suppose I should have children. I can even see how it would be the sensible—the proper thing to do. But we're not two odd stockings, Uncle Clayte. We might make a good pair, but with people that isn't enough."

Uncle Clayte looked at her fully. His blue eyes were ageless and deep. "I agree. You ain't nylons or egg crates to be fixed up and used again. And the sensible thing ain't enough with human beings. But supposing there was more. You ever think of that?"

Elinor could only stare at him, wide-eyed.

He said, "You think about it. You take a walk down to the road gate. You got time. I'll get you to your train."

What Uncle Clayte had said had startled her. She had never considered it before. She was sure he was wrong. David loved Margaret even as she loved Tommy.

SHE was sitting on the stile, deep in thought, when David came. She raised her head and saw him walking up the gravel road, bag in hand. He stopped when he saw her, then came swiftly to the barred gate. His big shoulders filled out the grey jacket of his suit. The blue tie deepened the color of his eyes, and Elinor felt the tingle that had gone through her that afternoon on High Mount.

She did not move.

David said, incredulously, "Scott didn't say you were here. He said Uncle Clayte wasn't about. I got the bus up." His eyes held hers. "I went down to see you yesterday. Uncle Clayte must have guessed. I wanted to see you. I had to ask you."

He stopped. Elinor thought, her heart beating strongly, "How wise Uncle Clayte is. He knew I would not have listened if I had been home when David came. It would have been too abrupt. My answer would have been a shocked reflex, but David would have accepted it. How wise. The sensible thing isn't enough, but when there is love as well . . ."

David said, his hands against the white rails, "I've thought of it, backwards and forwards, over and over. There'll always be Tom and Margaret, but—but I love you, Elinor. I need you. Can you believe that?"

Elinor's lashes were wet. "I can believe," she said softly. She put out her hand.

His hand held hers warmly as they walked through the gathering dusk into the future that was no longer empty and futile, but full and inviting. Somewhere beyond the haze it seemed to Elinor that Tommy smiled approvingly, ageless in his youth. ✓



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In my great task of happiness;
If I have moved among my race
And shown no glorious morning face;
If beams from happy human eyes
Have moved me not; if morning skies,
Books, and my food and summer rain
Knocked on my sullen heart in vain:
Lord, Thy most pointed pleasure take
And stab my spirit broad awake;
Or, Lord, if still too obdurate I
Choose Thou, before that spirit die,
A piercing pain, a killing sin,
And to my dead heart run them in!

—ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

Ideas Are Seeds

WINTER is a season of quieter occupations in the country. The long evenings, the shut-in days offer opportunities to those who want to catch up on reading, pursue certain studies, develop a cherished hobby or get on with the planning of some social community project. It can be a time of quiet reflection, thinking things through.

Though adversity comes, we must not permit our spirit to be cast down, but rather, in the words of R. Waldo Trine "make the best of it and always look forward for better things, for conditions more prosperous. To hold yourself in this attitude of mind is to set into operation subtle, silent irresistible forces that sooner or later will actualize in material form that which is today merely an idea. But ideas have occult power, and ideas when rightly planted and rightly tended, are the seeds that actualize material conditions."

A noted English writer of biographies, publisher, member of parliament and active worker on the secretariat of the League of Nations, Sir Michael Sadleir, wrote: "The world has more need than ever for men and women of wide vision, men and women who can see the bearing of things, apparently separate and disconnected, upon one another as factors in a complex problem; who can concentrate their thought, but can also see implications and connections; who are resolved that the younger generation shall preserve that quality which Wordsworth said is sacred—the quality of "a sensitive being, a creative soul."

Books are storehouses of knowledge; the source of ideas to stimulate the mind and provide inspiration for the spirit. The problem is to find the right books for ourselves. Only a little over a century ago the public library movement developed throughout the English-speaking world and the Scandinavian countries. The users of the books thus provided, are concerned with broadening their personal interests, understanding things about them, developing themselves culturally or just reading for pleasure or amusement. Meanwhile a new science of library administration and use has grown up and a vast number of trained librarians are available to serve and guide the public in reading. These developments have brought exceptional educational opportunities for many people, who otherwise would have been denied them, arousing an awareness of need, creating new interests and stimulating study and discussion groups. Library books have served well the needs of those occupying positions of leadership in a community: clergymen, newspaper and radio writers, health and welfare workers, labor, industrial and government officials.

We are now at the season when demands on public library services should be the greatest. Are they adequate in your community? Have you a book service of any type: open shelf, book vans, travelling boxes of books, a smaller branch stemming out from one central large public library, a

On wintertime occupations, the reading of books and points pertaining to the use of public library services by rural people

by AMY J. ROE

regional library functioning across school or municipal boundaries? We have been told over and over again that the weakest spots are the rural areas—where just under 25 per cent of the people have some library service; that three-quarters of the rural people in Canada have no public library service of any kind.

At the 1955 meeting of the Canadian Library Association, in Saskatoon, Mrs. Elspeth Young, librarian of Oakville, Ontario, said: "The problems of the small library are all-prevailing and ever present . . . One of the problems which seems to be exploding rather than expanding in small centers is: are we going to have sewage disposal plants, the new street lights or a new library." She urged that every effort be made to secure interested citizens to act as trustees on library boards. In public relations, the word of the trustee carries more weight in the community than that of the librarian. Too often library promotion is left to librarians, who by the nature of their work and training are not fitted for the job, though they are ready and willing to supply the enthusiasm and conviction to put ideas across.

In general the patterns of social life of the people of Canada and the United States are not greatly different. There is much which we could learn from experiments and projects in library services in the United States. v

Books -- Our Passports

by ARKLEY LUCILLE O'FARRELL

IN the ever-changing world of today, knowledge of current affairs is more important than ever before and it emphasizes our responsibility to provide adequate library facilities for all rural areas." This is a statement of aim of the Women's Committee of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation in regard to their fine program for Rural Library Extension and annual reading projects for men, women, boys and girls.

Their aim in promoting library extension is very like that of our own Women's Institutes. They have taken seriously the view that "In books we can find our passports to world citizenship." They have set themselves earnestly to prove that claim and have translated thinking and planning into action.

Each county is encouraged to appoint county and township library chairmen. The county library chairman works under the direction of the county Farm Bureau Women's Committee, and with the township women's committee in "planning, creating interest, and carrying out an active program for the year."

These plans explore the need for extended library services; actively support county library surveys; and direct reading projects. Library legislation is studied and ways and means are found to make the best use of it. Reading lists are compiled for the reading projects. Recognition is given for participation: (a) to the county having the greatest number of participants completing the required number of books; (b) to the county showing most improvement.

Enrollment cards are distributed by the Women's Committee in September of each year. When these are returned, each enrollee is sent the reading list

and forms which are to be filled out after the books are read.

Publicity is given as to the sources from which books may be obtained: (1) Iowa State Travelling Library where books may be borrowed on request, only charge the cost of postage. (2) Local public libraries where books are borrowed on a fee basis, depending on locality—fifty cents to \$2. (3) School libraries—books available to rural school children. (4) WO Book Club, Iowa State College, Ames. (5) Bookmobiles.

"The project is designed to encourage an increasing interest in the reading of good books, to furnish a medium for keeping in contact with various fields of knowledge, to serve as a worthwhile leisure-time activity and to create an interest in the actual use of library legislation for the extension of rural library service."

A required "Reading List" which we saw was compiled under the following headings: (1) Man. (2) The world he lives in. (3) About some of the people. (4) The novels people are reading.

Any farm man or woman may take part in a reading project. Each participant must read six books a year, four from the suggested list, and two of his own choosing. The participant fills out a "book comment" for each book read. These forms are available from the county Farm Bureau office, or from county and township library chairmen. The form requires the name of the book and the author. It answers four questions: (1) Did the book appeal to you? (2) Why? (3) Did other members of your family read the book? (4) Where did you get the book?

The form is signed by the reader, giving address, township and county. All book comments must be submitted to the county library chairman not later than September 1 each year. The county library chairman must submit the list of individuals completing the project to the state chairman by October 1.

The State Farm Bureau Women's Conference gives recognition on the basis of the county having the most individuals who are Farm Bureau members, completing the project; and the county showing the most improvement. County or township committees may also give prizes locally, the prize always being, of course, a book!

In this reading program, boys and girls are not neglected. Reading projects for them are arranged in co-operation with the schools, and the 4-H clubs. A member of the Women's Committee takes charge of such work and the response is splendid, some students reading as many as 20 books a year in this way.

The slogan of the girls' and boys' Reading Club is "United through Books." The purpose of the club is clearly stated: "The young people of today are the citizens of tomorrow. Their thinking and attitudes are influenced by what they read. They have a great respect for the part books play in human life for—

"Without going out of doors, one may know the whole world."

"Without looking out of the window, one may see the way to heaven."—LIEL TZU.

The same rules and system of reports and recognition applies to the girls' and boys' reading club, as to the project for adults.

This library program has been carried on for a number of years. Indeed, one county library chairman I met had held office for more than a dozen consecutive years. And she was still full of enthusiasm for the program.

Obviously it has done much to stimulate interest in people, other lands and other ways of life. It has helped to make readers world conscious and more tolerant, proving the value of books, "as passports to world citizenship." v



Cozy zippered playsuit for cold days.

AT one time children were dressed to look like their parents—whether they liked it or not. Today most parents choose garments which they think are durable and will allow for children's growth. These are desirable qualities, but are they sufficient? Do we consider a child's preferences? Are there some clothes which will contribute more to his development than others?

Children of pre-school years are very busy little people. They are growing and learning quickly. The clothes they wear during this period can and should contribute to all the important phases of their development. Comfort, appearance and self-help features are major considerations.

Comfort is essential to a lively youngster who is on the go all day. His garments must allow freedom of action for running, jumping and climbing. Because his skin is sensitive, soft, smooth-textured fabrics are least likely to cause discomfort. It is important to buy the right size clothing for a child and widest to allow room for growth. Too large clothing will be uncomfortable for the child and before he does "grow into it" the garment may be old and faded. Oversize garments may be dangerous too. Overalls rolled up at the bottom may cause a hard fall if the heel catches in the cuff. Dresses or coats that are too large will hang off the shoulders and cause the child to be continually pulling at it.

Comfort is more important to a young child than stylish lines, but good appearance is necessary. Line and design can create an optical illusion just as in adult apparel. The chubby boy or girl looks slimmer in one color effects; set-in sleeves are more flattering than kimono sleeves and horizontal lines. The tall, slender child can wear contrasting colors and raglan sleeves to advantage.

Self-help features contribute greatly to the development of Junior's self-confidence and independence. These are characterized by full-length front openings, with fastenings which a child can manage by himself. Buttons, for example, should be the size of a nickel or quarter, with grooved edges which can be easily grasped. Button-

holes are much easier to handle than loops or hooks and eyes. Slide fasteners can be managed by a two-year-old, but they should be protected to prevent nipping.

Buying too-large clothing is not advised, but there are features, other



Active play calls for sturdy fabrics.

than size which will increase the life of a garment. Since most of the child's growth is in length, select garments which can be adjusted to give additional inches. Jumpers, pinafores or rompers made with adjustable straps and six- to eight-inch hems will permit lengthening both above and below the waist. Boys' trousers can have adjustable straps and deeper hems. Lengthening the straps is important in order to let the crotch fall so that it will not be binding.

Some thought too should be given to having the garment last until it is really outgrown. The heavy wear comes in the same places time after time. These spots should be reinforced. Look for overalls and snow-suits with appliques or patches on the knees. A particularly good buy for boys are denim overalls with "triple knees" and "double seats." Shirts and sweaters with double material at the elbows will lengthen the life of a garment and the patches are so neatly sewn in place that they are barely visible. If you can't find clothing with patches or reinforcements, add them yourself, in interesting shapes.

Children's clothing must be well made to stand up to hard wear. Seams get especially hard strain and should be well stitched and finished. For sturdy fabrics such as denim used for

Clothes for Children

Select those fabrics and designs which will provide garments giving good wear, fit and appearance. Consider special points of comfort, ease of movement and adjustment for growth, and factors essential in a child's development

by PHYLLIS A. THOMSON

playclothes, flat-fell seams are most serviceable. Feel inside the garment to be sure that the seams are not rough and will not irritate the child.

For gingham, chambray or percale, plain seams—pinked or edged-stitched—are satisfactory. In sheer fabrics such as organdy, voile or nylon, narrow French seams wear best. Trimmings and pockets should be as flat as possible.

Fabrics used in children's garments should be light weight, yielding and flexible if children's play is to be free and unhampered. Materials should be durable to withstand the wear of play and numerous launderings. Cotton is well adapted to garments that need frequent washing. Wool is still the most satisfactory material where warmth is desired without excessive bulk and weight. The new man-made fabrics are easily washed, quickly dried and require little if any ironing. They are also hard-wearing fabrics—a boon to mothers.

Encourage the pre-school-age child to take an interest in the selection of his garments. Keep in mind that children like to be dressed in a similar manner to their small friends. It is important to their sense of belonging.

No fixed rules have been set for selecting colors for children. A small child usually loves vivid colors. Insofar as possible, let them have what they enjoy, guiding their taste toward good design and appropriateness. Through surveys it has been shown that to a young child, the most important features of clothing are color and newness. When planning or buying, try to spread purchases over a

longer period of time so that the child will have something new more frequently.

SHOOES are one of the most important items which you buy for your child. Improper selection may lead to foot injuries later in life. To eliminate guesswork, try always to purchase shoes from an expert salesman. Shoes should be both comfortable and healthful which means long and wide enough for the foot to function properly. Too short shoes may eventually cause bunions, corns and in-growing nails, while a loose fit may cause blisters or poor walking habits.

As soon as a child begins to walk he needs shoes with firm yet flexible



Interested in the choice of his suit.



Well-made garments bring satisfaction.

soles. The soles of the shoes should be sufficiently broad to provide steady platforms under his feet. Make sure the sole is not slippery. Moccasins or rubber soled shoes are best suited to sand and grass—they don't give the necessary support when walking on pavements and floors. Patent leather is not recommended for children's shoes for everyday wear. Since it is non-porous, it prevents the evaporation of moisture from the foot.

If you must buy shoes through a mail order house or if you are unable to have the child fitted personally, have him stand on a piece of paper and then, with a pencil make an outline of his foot. Send along this paper when ordering the shoes so that the salesman can compare the sizes with it. To check the fit, a good rule to follow is that the end of the shoes

should be three-quarters of an inch to one inch longer than the longest toe. The heel should fit without rubbing. If the heel of the shoe is not sufficiently narrow, place a small piece of chamois inside the heel. Shoe straps are occasionally the answer to this problem. If after removing a child's shoes you notice pink or red pressure spots, you will know that the shoes he is wearing are unsuitable. Most youngsters outgrow their shoes before they wear them out. It is not wise to pass them on to other children unless you are sure they fit correctly.

It is just as important for stockings and socks to be of the correct size. Too-short socks can cause almost as much difficulty as a short shoe. Buy woollen socks about an inch longer than the child's feet. This will allow for slight shrinkage. The new nylon stretch socks and stockings are the latest wonder. Made from specially processed nylon stretch yarn, the socks will stretch to fit several sizes without sagging or binding.

LITTLE girls' dresses should be loose and full in design without being cumbersome. A four- to six-inch hem will allow the garment to be lengthened. The smock-type dress with a full-length front opening has proven the most satisfactory since it is easy to put on and take off.

Raglan sleeves permit greater freedom and are much easier to iron than puffed sleeves. To be comfortable, a set-in sleeve needs a fairly large armscye, a loose fitting cuff or band and a sufficiently long underarm seam to permit freedom of movement. Panties that match the dress complete the outfit and do away with the need for a slip, although for sheer dresses a slip is necessary.

Fabrics for little girls' dresses have become increasingly attractive and easy to launder. The new synthetic materials which can be purchased in opaque materials as well as sheers are ideal for children. They look so fresh and dainty and require little care other than washing. New finishes applied to percale, lawn, gingham and fine broadcloth prevent wrinkling and creasing and do away with starching. Plain colors are best, although a simple, small design is quite suitable.

BOYS' suits should be selected with many of the same features in mind as girls' dresses. Ample fullness, large enough without being cumbersome and with self-help features. The fit of their suits must be carefully watched. The trousers may be too tight in the crotch and so uncomfortable that they restrict freedom of action. If too large and too low, they make it difficult for the child to straddle a tricycle or to climb.

In boys' shirts or the upper part of a two-piece suit an allowance of five or six inches below the button level provides for growth and also keeps the tails from working out. Collars are unnecessary on small boys' suits; a slightly rounded neckline or a stitched-down collar is easiest to care for. Short, cap or elbow-length sleeves are comfortable for play. The straight leg of the pants should be as wide at the bottom as at the largest part of the thigh. A wide generous seat and enough length from waistline to crotch permits him to stoop and bend with freedom.

(Please turn to page 40)

USE "BAKE-TESTED"

Robin Hood Flour

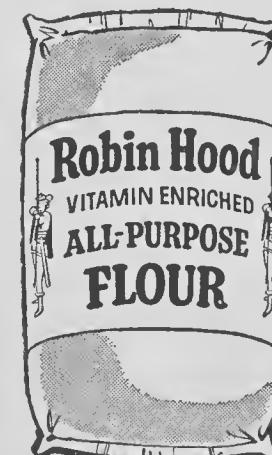
**the one flour best for
all your baking!**



CHELSEA BUNS

4 cups sifted Robin Hood
Vitamin Enriched Flour
1 package fast-rising dry yeast
1 1/4 cups warm water
1/4 cup sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 egg, beaten

2 tablespoons soft shortening
1/2 cup melted butter
2 cups brown sugar
2/3 cup chopped nuts
1 teaspoon cinnamon
2/3 cup raisins
10 maraschino cherries, sliced



BANDED BAG:

of fine quality cotton . . . paper label soaks off in minutes — no ink to wash out.

Soften yeast in 1/2 cup warm water with 1 teaspoon sugar 10 minutes.

To remaining water add sugar, salt, shortening and beaten egg. Add yeast. Stir in flour to make a soft dough. Remember—there's no guessing when you use Robin Hood Flour . . . it's "Bake-Tested" to give you uniformly best results, bag after bag. Knead on greased board until smooth. Place in greased bowl. Cover. Let rise in warm place until double in bulk. Punch down. Cut in two. Cover and let rest 15 minutes.

Grease two 8 x 8" pans. Combine 1/3 cup melted butter, 1 cup sugar and nuts and spread on pans. Dot with cherry slices. Roll dough into two rectangles 3/8" thick. Brush with butter. Sprinkle with remaining sugar, cinnamon and raisins. Roll up like jelly roll. Slice 1" thick and place in pans. Let rise to double in bulk.

Bake at 375°F., moderate, for 30—40 minutes. Turn upside down on plate, and remove pan after 10 minutes.

Each batter makes one dozen luscious Chelsea Buns — the best you've ever tasted or your money back—plus 10 percent!



Helps build up children's resistance to winter ills

**There's no nicer way to give
children their vitamins A & D**

Recommended by many Doctors everywhere, children love Haliborange as much as they do extra good orange juice, for that's what it tastes like. No hint of oil or fish.

A teaspoonful makes a glassful and each teaspoonful contains 5000 International Units Vitamin A and 1000 International Units of Vitamin D.



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... thousands report. Blessed relief from years of suffering from poor hearing and miserable ear noises, caused by catarrh of the head! That's what these folks (many past 70) reported after using our simple Elmo Palliative HOME TREATMENT. This may be the answer to your prayer. Nothing to wear. Here are SOME of the symptoms that may likely go with your catarrhal deafness and ear noises: Mucus dropping in throat. Head feels stopped up by mucus. Mucus in nose or throat every day. Hear — but don't understand words. Hear better on clear days — worse on rainy days, or with a cold. Ear noises like crickets, bells, whistles, clicking or escaping steam or many others. If your condition is caused by catarrh of the head, you, too, may likely enjoy such wonderful relief as many others have reported during our past 18 years. WRITE TODAY FOR PROOF OF RELIEF AND 30 DAY TRIAL OFFER. THE ELMO COMPANY DEPT. FCG1 DAVENPORT, IOWA

BABY'S COLDS

Help Nature To Fight Them Off

Medical Science denies there is any such thing as a cure for colds — only Nature herself can do it. So when baby's sniffles, or stuffy breathing warn you of a cold's presence — cooperate at once with Nature.

See that baby is kept warm, gets plenty of sleep and take extra care that the bowels are thoroughly cleared of harmful wastes. To do this without upsetting baby's whole system and further weakening it, try Baby's Own Tablets. Mild, yet act promptly in getting rid of irritating materials that make baby restless and feverish.

One Nova Scotia Mother says: "My baby of 26 months caught a nasty cold so I tried Baby's Own Tablets and she threw this cold off quicker than ever before. I certainly am for Baby's Own Tablets from now on." Equally good for restlessness and peevishness resulting from irregularity at teething time, for constipation, digestive upsets and other minor infant troubles. Taste good and are easy to take! Get a package today.

Oven Meals

For flavor and downright goodness, complete oven dinners will rate high with your family

COOKING a complete dinner in the oven is one of the most popular ways to prepare a meal. And no wonder. With everything arranged in the oven beforehand, the home-maker is free to tend to other chores. Next day's dessert or main course may be included to save extra time and to make full use of the oven heat. Oven meals should be carefully timed so that everything is cooked to perfection at serving time.

Oven-cooked foods retain their good flavor and attractive appearance—a decided advantage when the meal cannot be served as soon as planned. The fact that there is practically no last-minute preparation makes an oven meal a good choice when entertaining, for the hostess is free to join her guests. And the meal can always be delayed a few minutes if necessary. An oven temperature of 325° F. is recommended for roasting or baking most cuts of meat and is a suitable temperature for most meals. Other dishes which cook well at this temperature should be chosen to complete the meal. If a roast of pork is being cooked, the potatoes may be cooked whole around the roast or they might be scalloped. In either case they will cook in about an hour.

Casserole dishes fall naturally into the class of "oven meals." They are easy to prepare and require little attention while cooking. There is practically no limit to the kinds of casseroles. Besides the different basic ingredients that may be used, sauces, seasonings and toppings can be varied. A macaroni and cheese casserole made with milk, canned tomatoes, cream or tomato sauce is good. Chopped onion, parsley or other seasonings provide a change in flavor; buttered crumbs, grated cheese or crumbled prepared cereals may be sprinkled on top.

Baked pepper and Hubbard squash are good vegetables to include as they take approximately the same time to bake as potatoes. Grated or sliced vegetables—carrots, turnips, parsnips are tasty when baked. Cooked in a tightly covered casserole with about one-quarter cup water and a little salt these vegetables will take approximately an hour. Frozen vegetables require less water and less time. Canned vegetables heat in 15 to 20 minutes in a 325° F. oven.

There are many choices for accompanying desserts: baked fruit puddings, apples or other fruit, upside down cakes, custard, bread pudding, gingerbread or meringues.

Menu No. 1

Savory Salmon Steaks

Belgian Baked Potatoes

Creamed Cauliflower

Cottage Pudding

Savory Salmon Steaks

3 slices fresh salmon (1½ lbs.) 1 tsp. grated onion
1½ c. milk ¼ tsp. paprika
1 T. butter 3 T. grated cheese
4 tsp. flour Pepper to taste
1 tsp. salt



Baking several foods at once saves time and conserves oven heat.

Moisten cooking parchment well and with it line bottom and sides of a baking dish. Into this pour milk, sift in flour then lay in salmon steaks. Add seasonings, then dot fish with butter and grated cheese. Bake uncovered.

Belgian Baked Potatoes

4 large potatoes	Salt
3 T. butter	Pepper

Pare potatoes; cut them lengthwise in ¼-inch strips. Then soak in cold water 20 minutes. Melt butter in a large, shallow baking dish, then add the potatoes which have been well drained. Stir until potato strips are well covered with fat. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake uncovered.

Creamed Cauliflower

Partly cook cauliflower and place in casserole. Blend 3 T. melted butter with 4 T. flour. Add 2 c. milk and season with 1 T. salt. Pour sauce over cauliflower and cover.

Cottage Pudding

½ c. butter	½ tsp. salt
1 c. milk	2½ c. flour
⅔ c. sugar	4 tsp. baking powder
1 egg well beaten	

Cream butter, add sugar gradually, add egg. Mix and sift flour, baking powder and salt; add alternately with milk to first mixture. Turn into a buttered casserole and bake. Serve with Vanilla Sauce or Hard Sauce.

Place fish on lower rack to back; cauliflower casserole and cottage pudding to front. Place second rack on glides so that food below is cleared; place in center Belgian Baked Potatoes. Place food in a cold oven. Baking time 45 to 50 minutes at 375° F.

Menu No. 2

Roast Pork

Parsley Potatoes Apple Sauce

Buttered Beans

Pineapple Cherry Velvet

Select roast of pork size suitable for your family. Season with salt and pepper. Place in uncovered roaster in a cold or preheated oven on bottom rack. Set oven control at 350° F.

Apple Sauce: Peel, core and slice 1 quart of apples and put in 1½-quart baking dish with ½ c. granulated sugar, ¼ c. water and 1 T. lemon juice, cover and place on top rack. Bake 1 hour and remove from oven.

Parsley Potatoes: In front of pork in a covered pan, place 8 to 10 medium pota-

toes, pared, cut in half with ½ c. boiling water and 1 tsp. salt.

Buttered Beans: At back beside meat, in a covered pan, place cut beans with ¼ c. water and 1 tsp. salt. Add butter when cooked. Vegetables are placed in the oven when apple sauce is removed.

Pineapple Cherry Velvet

¾ c. butter	¾ c. milk
1¼ c. granulated sugar	4 tsp. baking powder
8 egg yolks	1 can sliced pineapple
Brown sugar	1 tsp. flavoring
1 ½ c. sifted flour	

Use 10 by 14-inch broiler pan. Cream butter, add sugar, then beat until fluffy. Beat egg yolks until light and add to first mixture. Combine thoroughly. Sift baking powder and flour together. Add vanilla to milk. Add alternately flour and milk mixtures beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Beat vigorously. Spread bottom of broiler pan generously with butter. Over this press a ¼-inch layer of brown sugar. Drain thoroughly 12-14 slices of pineapple. Press maraschino cherry into center of each slice, place on brown sugar in rows. Pour batter over pineapple. Place on top rack of oven and bake for 1 hour at 350° F. This recipe gives 12 generous servings. Pineapple may be dipped in lemon juice to give a more tart flavor. Serve with whipped cream.

Menu No. 3

Small Picnic Ham Potatoes in Cream
Oven Broiled Tomatoes
Lemon Souffle

Baked Ham

Select a small picnic ham (2½ lbs.). Parboil 45 minutes. Place in a casserole or baking pan. Mix 2 tsp. prepared mustard and 4 T. brown sugar and rub into meat. Stick in about a dozen whole cloves. Add ¼ c. water. Do not cover.

Potatoes in Cream

6 large potatoes	½ tsp. salt
2 T. flour	¼ tsp. pepper
2 T. butter	1½ c. milk

Pare potatoes, slice or cut into cubes. Parboil. Place in a buttered baking dish. Make a white sauce with butter, flour, milk, salt and pepper, then pour over potatoes. Cover.

Oven Broiled Tomatoes

4 med. size tomatoes	Bread crumbs
2 T. melted butter	2 T. finely chopped green pepper and onion
2 T. lemon juice	

Cut tomatoes in half (do not peel). Dip cut edge in melted butter, then in bread crumbs. Arrange in a baking dish, face up. Sprinkle with onion, green pepper, lemon juice. Do not cover.

Lemon Souffle

1 c. sugar	1 T. melted butter
½ c. pastry flour	Grated rind and juice of 1½ lemons
¼ c. cold water	
1 c. milk	
2 eggs	

Mix sugar and flour, add grated lemon rind, water and milk. Beat egg yolks until thick and lemon-colored, then add to first mixture. Add butter and lemon juice, then fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Pour into buttered baking dish. Do not cover.

Place meat at back of lower rack and potatoes to front of lower rack. Place second rack so that it just clears the food below, with the pudding to the back of the upper rack and tomatoes to the front, or side by side.

Place food in cold oven, set temperature at 325°-350° F. Bake 1½ hours. Or place food in preheated oven 325°-350° F., and bake 1 hour.

Tea Companions

Surprise and delight your guests with a variety of flavorful quick breads fresh from your oven — or freezer

by ANGELA FIELD

ENTERTAINING friends is one of the most enjoyable ways to welcome the new year. Our pleasant custom of informal get-togethers carries with it the warmth and hospitality that is part of friendship and neighborliness. For such occasions we like to have food that can be quickly prepared and arranged, yet something that shows individuality. And that's where "hurry-up breads" come in for their share of attention. Luscious hot breads, fruit-flavored and spread with butter, can turn even the simplest visit into a remembered event.

Quick breads can be made ahead of time, too. Wrapped in aluminum foil after baking, they will stay fresh for several days. If you have a home freezer, you can always have a supply of fresh quick breads. Freeze them in quantity to be used later when needed.

If you are planning a home-cooking table for a bazaar, quick breads can be counted on to be a best seller. Why not feature a "Quick Bread Counter" for this fast selling item? The breads are quickly made and you'll net a neat profit. Try Candied Fruit Bread, rich with fruit and nuts, and Banana Bran Bread, a new blend of cereal and fruit. This bread stays moist and fresh for days (if you can keep it that long). Other breads are equally delicious and can be counted on to please your guests.

Candied Fruit Bread

2 c. sifted flour	½ c. chopped glazed cherries
4 tsp. baking powder	¼ c. blanched almonds, halved
½ tsp. salt	2 eggs, well beaten
¼ tsp. cinnamon	3 T. melted butter
¾ c. sugar	
¼ c. seedless raisins	
1 c. milk	

Butter a 9 by 5-inch loaf pan. Sift together flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon into mixing bowl. Add sugar, prepared fruits and nuts. Mix well. Combine eggs, milk and butter. Add to dry ingredients, stirring just enough to blend.

Turn into prepared loaf pan. Let stand for 15 minutes. Bake in a moderate oven (375° F.) for 1 hour. Turn out on wire rack and allow to cool for several hours before slicing. Decorate top with almonds, cherries and citron peel.

Orange Graham Loaf

½ c. butter	1 tsp. baking powder
1 c. sugar	2 T. grated orange rind
3 eggs, separated	¾ c. chopped walnuts
2½ c. graham cracker crumbs	
¾ c. milk	

Cream butter until smooth. Add sugar gradually. Add egg yolks one at a time, beating well after each addition. Combine cracker crumbs, baking powder, orange rind and walnuts. Alternately add dry ingredients and milk to butter mixture. Mix thoroughly. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry; then fold into mixture. Pour into buttered 9 by 5-inch loaf pan, lined with wax paper. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) for 1 hour. Let stand 10 minutes, then remove from pan. Cool before slicing.

Banana Bran Bread

½ c. butter	1½ c. mashed bananas (ripe)
½ c. sugar	2 T. water
1 egg	2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. vanilla	½ tsp. soda
¾ c. chopped walnuts	½ tsp. salt
1½ c. sifted flour	
1 c. bran	

Cream butter and sugar until well blended. Add egg and beat well. Stir in bran. Combine bananas, water, soda and salt. Then add dry ingredients to banana mixture and stir only until blended. Pour into a buttered 9 by 5-inch loaf pan. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) for about 50 minutes. Cool before slicing.

Apricot Nut Bread

½ c. dried apricots	1 egg
½ c. water	1 c. sugar
2 c. flour	2 T. melted butter
3 tsp. baking powder	½ c. orange juice
¾ tsp. salt	1 c. chopped walnuts
¼ tsp. soda	

Soak apricots in water for ½ hour; drain and chop. Sift flour, baking powder, salt and soda together. Beat egg, add sugar and mix well. Add melted butter



New version of an old favorite, Banana Bran Bread provides a special treat.

Tempting Sugar'n' Spice BUNS



Easy to make...
delicious piping hot!

Whether you serve them fresh from the oven for tea-time snacks, or toasted and generously buttered for breakfast, the whole family will cheer when you serve delicious, fragrant Sugar 'n' Spice Buns. They're easy to make, too, with Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast... so when you bake at home, why not surprise your family with this sugar 'n' spice treat?

SUGAR 'N' SPICE BUNS

Makes 32 buns

Wash and dry
¾ cup seedless raisins
¾ cup currants

Scald
1 cup milk

Remove from heat and stir in
⅓ cup shortening
½ cup granulated sugar

Cool to lukewarm.

In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

½ cup lukewarm water
2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Sprinkle with contents of

2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well.

Sift together 3 times

2 cups once-sifted all-purpose flour
1½ teaspoons salt
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
½ teaspoon grated nutmeg
¼ teaspoon ground cloves

Stir the lukewarm milk mixture and

1 well-beaten egg

Into the yeast mixture.

Stir in the sifted dry ingredients and beat until smooth and elastic. Stir in the fruits and beat well.

Work in
2½ cups more (about) once-sifted all-purpose flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough until smooth and elastic.

Place in a greased bowl and brush lightly with melted butter or margarine.

Cover and set dough in warm place, free from draft and let rise until doubled in bulk—about 1½ hours. Punch down dough. Divide dough in half. Form each half of dough into a roll 16 inches long. Cut each roll into 16 pieces. Form into balls and place 16 balls in each of two greased 8-inch square cake pans.

Brush liberally with melted butter or margarine.

Combine

½ cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

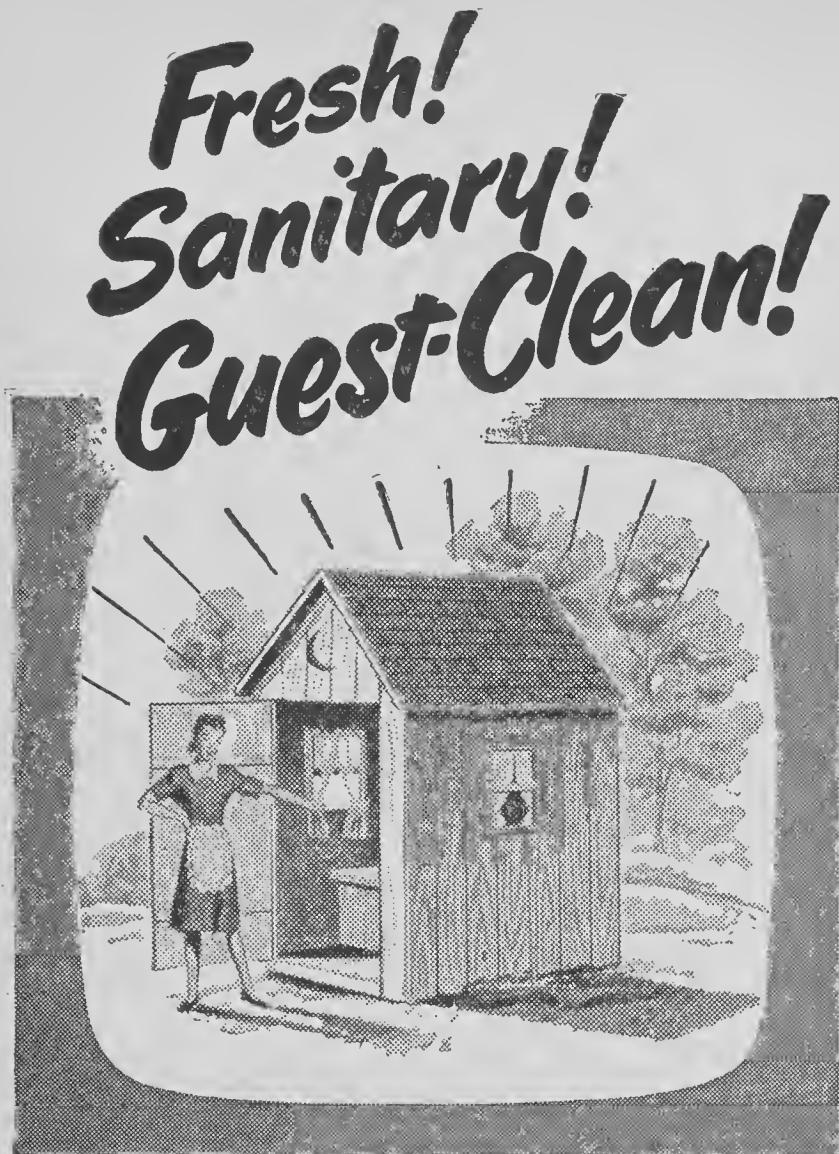
and sprinkle buns with this mixture. Cover and let rise until a little more than doubled in bulk—about 1¼ hours. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, 30 to 35 minutes.

Needs no refrigeration

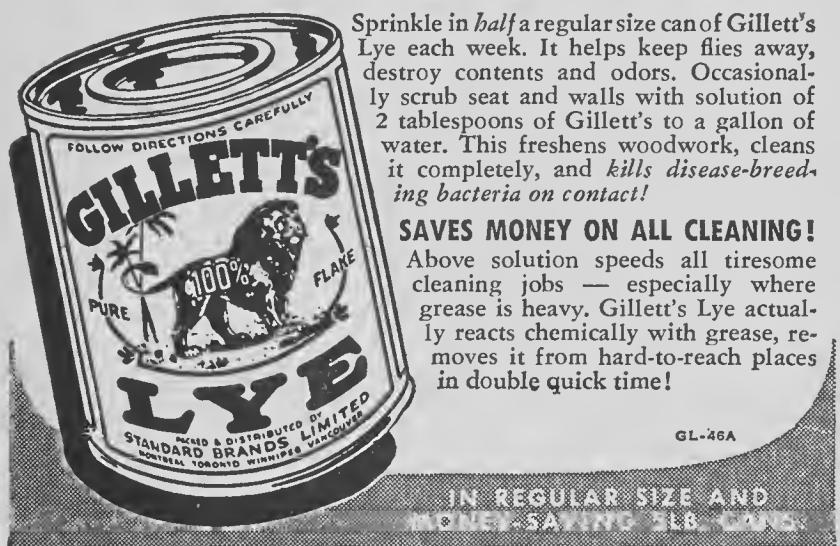
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Keeps fresh for weeks





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Sprinkle in *half* a regular size can of Gillett's Lye each week. It helps keep flies away, destroy contents and odors. Occasionally scrub seat and walls with solution of 2 tablespoons of Gillett's to a gallon of water. This freshens woodwork, cleans it completely, and *kills disease-breeding bacteria on contact!*

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Above solution speeds all tiresome cleaning jobs — especially where grease is heavy. Gillett's Lye actually reacts chemically with grease, removes it from hard-to-reach places in double quick time!

PART TIME WORK FOR WOMEN

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78 Dresses
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and orange juice. Stir egg mixture into sifted dry ingredients; stir in apricots and nuts. Pour batter into a greased loaf pan and bake in moderate oven 325°-350° F. 1 to 1½ hours. Cool before slicing.

Apple Walnut Bread

1½ c. sifted flour	1 c. broken walnuts
2 tsp. baking powder	¾ c. chopped apple
½ tsp. baking soda	1 egg, slightly beaten
1 tsp. salt	¾ c. brown sugar, firmly packed
1 tsp. cinnamon	1½ c. buttermilk
¼ tsp. nutmeg	1½ c. whole wheat flour
⅛ tsp. allspice	2 T. shortening

Mix and sift flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and spices. Add whole wheat flour, walnuts and apple. Combine egg, brown sugar, buttermilk and shortening. Add to flour mixture; mix just enough to moisten dry ingredients. Do not beat. Turn into well greased loaf pan 9 by 5 by 3 inches. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) for 1 hour.

Date-Nut Loaf

½ c. boiling water	2 c. sifted flour
1 c. pitted dates, chopped	¼ c. sugar
2 T. shortening	1 tsp. baking powder
1 T. grated orange rind	1 tsp. soda
½ c. orange juice	½ tsp. salt
1 beaten egg	½ c. chopped pecans

Pour boiling water over dates and shortening; cool to room temperature. Add orange rind and juice; stir in egg. Sift together dry ingredients; add to date mixture, stirring until just mixed. Stir in nuts. Line bottom of 8½ by 4½ by 2½-inch loaf pan with paper; pour in batter. Bake in slow oven (325° F.) about 50 minutes or until done. Cool 10 minutes, then turn out of pan.

Boston Brown Bread

½ c. white flour	½ c. cornmeal
½ tsp. salt	½-¾ c. milk
¾ tsp. baking powder	¼ c. dark molasses
¼ tsp. soda	½ c. seedless raisins (optional)
½ c. whole wheat flour	raisins (optional)

Sift flour, salt and baking powder and soda together; add whole wheat flour, cornmeal and raisins, if used. Add milk and molasses; stir until batter is well mixed. Mixture will seem very thin. Pour batter into well-greased mold, which should be not more than two-thirds filled. Cover tightly. Place mold on rack in deep kettle. Pour boiling water into kettle until it reaches half the height of mold. Cover tightly and cook on top of stove for 2 hours. If necessary, add water during cooking to keep water level in kettle even. Remove mold from water; take off lid; dry in mold in slow oven for 15 minutes.

Grapenuts Prune Bread

1½ c. milk, scalded	¾ c. sugar
½ c. grapenuts	1 egg, well beaten
2 c. sifted flour	3 T. melted shortening
1 T. baking powder	¾ c. finely cut soaked prunes
2 tsp. salt	

Pour hot milk over grapenuts. Set aside to cool. Sift flour, baking powder, salt and sugar together. Add egg, shortening and fruit to cooled grapenuts mixture and mix well. Then add flour mixture stirring only enough to dampen flour. Turn into greased 9 by 5 by 3-inch loaf pan and let stand 20 minutes before baking. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 1 hour or until done. Cool, then wrap in damp cloth or waxed paper and store overnight before slicing. Note: Chopped raisins or currants may be used instead of prunes. ✓

Clothes for Children

Continued from page 37

For very young children one- or two-piece cotton interlock suits with plastic-lined pants are really ideal. The suits are easily laundered and the special lining prevents the necessity of wearing separate rubber or plastic pants. Outfits for the very young lady are made in a similar manner. Dainty cotton interlock tops with decorative stitching or trim have matching plastic-lined panties. These outfits also feature special "grip" fasteners that are sufficiently flat that they will not break when the garment is put through the wringer.

Sleepers with feet, made of woven cotton or flannelette are best for night wear. They can either be one- or two-piece, but if one-piece, the sleepers should open down the front and have a drop seat. It is wisest to buy them large enough to allow for some shrinkage and your child's growth. The new-type sleepers with plastic-soled feet are excellent and make slippers unnecessary.

Knit underwear is more suitable for children than woven underwear, since it is more elastic and fits without binding. It is also porous and allows a uniform evaporation and absorption of perspiration. Cotton is used most often for undergarments because it is inexpensive and launders easily. Wool fibres combined with other fibers are desirable when extra warmth is needed. New synthetic fabrics, particularly nylon, are being used because of strength and washability.

FOR winter, a coat of soft, light-weight material with a rough pile or finish gives more warmth and comfort than a heavy, closely woven fabric. The coat should fit well around the neck and shoulders. It should be both loose and short enough for freedom of movement.

A winter snowsuit should be bought with two years' wear in mind. Since they are intended for all kinds of weather and much rough treatment, the fabric should be moisture-proof, warm, quick drying and sturdy. Woven fabrics that are light in weight and pliable are the most desirable. The new synthetic fabrics offer many advantages and are often the best choice. One-piece snowsuits that zipper down the front are best for children from two to six since they are easy to get in and out of and there is no pulling apart at the waist to allow snow and cold to get in. The seat should be roomy and wide and the legs loose fitting with tight elastic or knitted cuffs at the ankle. Raglan sleeves prevent any drawing over the back and across the arm and allow room for extra sweaters. Patches to reinforce elbows and knees are musts; they can be replaced when threadbare and the suit will still be in good condition. If you are making a snowsuit at home, try a muslin model before cutting into the good material.

New this season are the junior "weatherall" wool insulated nylon shell garments — jackets and slacks which keep the body evenly warm in very cold outer temperatures. The weatherall can be worn under light garments like cowboy suits or regular clothing. The two pieces weight only 27 ounces and are hand washable. ✓

New Year Needlework

Practical and attractive items for the home which reflect good taste and express individuality

by ANNA LOREE

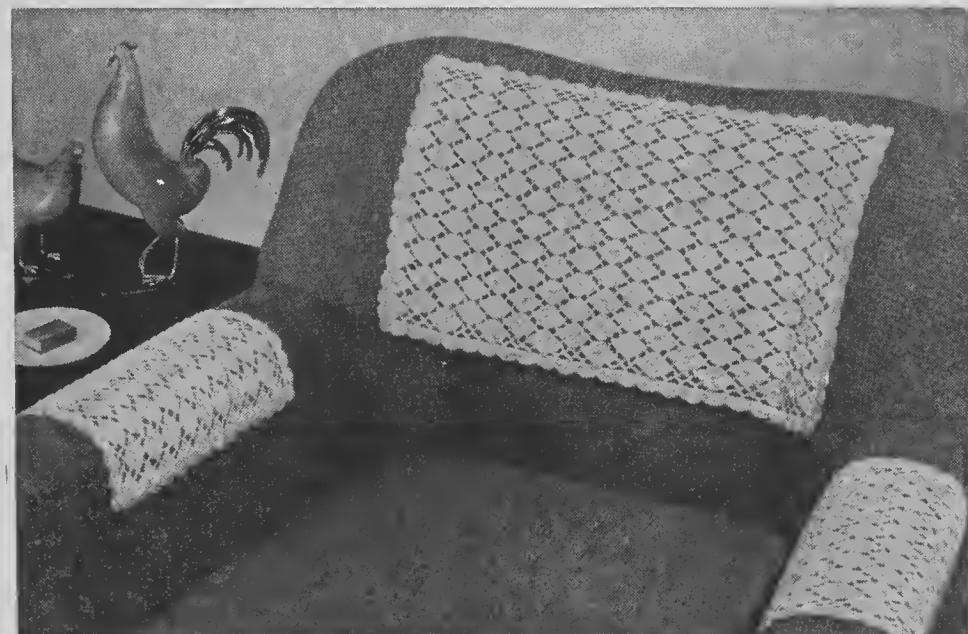
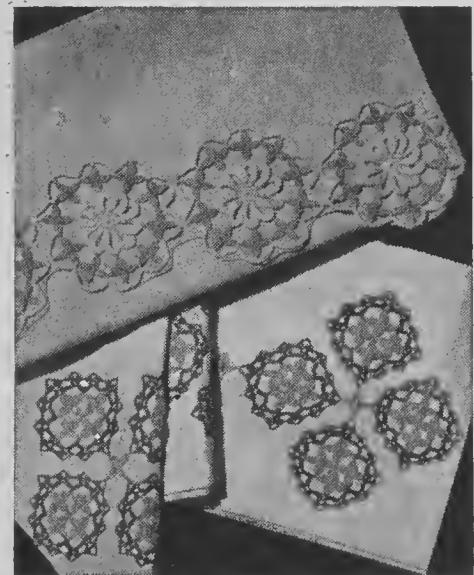
Design No. P-S-4694

Newcomers and experienced needleworkers will welcome this lovely sunburst patchwork quilt. Made with bright colored prints alternated with squares of white cotton. Instruction leaflet gives complete cutting and sewing directions. Note that seam allowances must be left on each piece cut. Materials: 13 yards white cotton, scraps of contrasting fabric, cotton batting, sewing thread. Design No. P-S-4694. Price 10 cents.



Design No. P-307

For hope chest, bazaar or to replenish supplies these lacy crocheted edgings are sure to please. Ideal "pick-up work" for leisure moments. Add edgings to home-sewn pillowcases or purchase novelty pastel shades for a festive appearance. Materials for Spin-a-daisy: 3 balls mercer-crochet cotton size 30, crochet hook No. 10; Forget-me-not: 4 balls crochet cotton size 30, 1 ball pearl cotton size 5, pillowcases. Design No. P-307. Price 10 cents.



Design No. C-S-639

A striking new design for chair back and arm piece set. Protects upholstery from soil and wear and gives a decorative note to room. Set is quickly worked in heavy cotton. Chair back

measures 12 by 18 inches, the arm piece is 7 by 11 inches. If you wish to use this design for a chesterfield make two chair backs or increase size to desired length. Materials: 4 balls ecru cronita cotton, crochet hook No. 6. Design No. C-S-639. Price 10 cents.

Address orders to The Country Guide Needlework Department, 290 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg 2, Manitoba.

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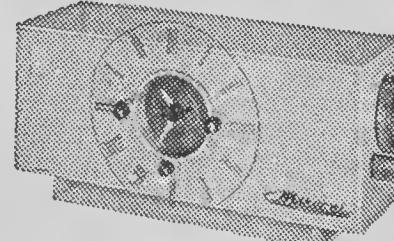
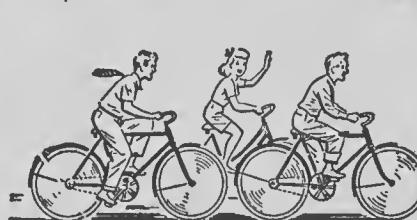
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Frank Thorogood builds for the future

In 43 years, foreman carpenter Frank Thorogood has seen many improvements in building methods.

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Life insurance gives today's families many new benefits. It not only affords them financial protection that is *more flexible*, but can also provide money for the children's education, for safeguarding the home mortgage, for arranging retirement income and for other important purposes.

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THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA

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Willowdale

Kerry Wood depicts a small town and its people

KERRY WOOD of Red Deer, Alberta, is well known to the readers of *The Country Guide* as a welcomed contributor of short stories, articles on nature and crafts. His new and eighth book, *Willowdale*, was published just before Christmas by McLellan and Stewart, Toronto.

Scottish-born Wood has been writing fiction, articles and radio scripts since he was 16 years of age and settled down seriously to become a writer. He scored his first successes when he wrote about the things he knew and loved: crafts, nature, farming, events and people in a small town. He has had the good sense to stay with those subjects which lends his work a distinctive flavor and gives it a decided appeal to readers. His name has appeared in many magazines and newspapers in Canada, the United States and Britain. Some 30 or more of his stories have been translated and published in German and Swiss magazines. In 1955 he won the Governor-General's award for juvenile literature with his previous book.

Willowdale is a delightful and perceptive picture of a small Alberta town and its inhabitants, drawn with humor, pathos and insight into human nature. He has captured the atmosphere, character and spirit of prairie towns and of the people who live in them.

Kerry Wood has given over 500 talks on nature and crafts over CBC Trans-Canada network and Alberta stations. He has been in strong demand as speaker on history and nature topics by service clubs, farm organizations and young people's groups but has had to curtail these activities so that he can get on with research and writing by which he earns his livelihood. He is a lover of out-door things, of Indian character and lore and of woodcrafts.—A.J.R. ✓

Meat Cookbook

A review of a new book by two famous teachers of cooking

A QUARTER to a third of many family food budgets is spent on meat and meat products. Yet most homemakers recognize only three or four cuts of meat easily; ask for them almost exclusively and cook them in one, two, or at the most, three different ways.

The Complete Meat Cookbook, containing almost 2,000 recipes, presents an excellent opportunity for the homemaker to add to her store of cooking knowledge and to increase her ability as a cook. Here is her chance to build a reputation as a cook with a score of meat recipes at her fingertips and to feed her family better and more economically.

The recipes come from the world's foremost meat kitchens. The book is written by Beth Bailey McLean and Thora Hegstad Campbell. Both are home economists, practicing their profession daily at work and in their own homes. Mrs. McLean heads the home economics division of Swift's and is known to millions from coast to coast in United States and Canada as Martha Logan. Mrs. Campbell is as-

sistant director of the Swift's test kitchens.

From their years of experience together, answering thousands of questions on meat cookery, training members of the Martha Logan staff and testing and developing meat recipes for every taste, in every price range, comes this delightful meat cookbook.

This, the first complete meat cookbook written by Beth B. McLean and Thora H. Campbell, is "keyed" with 400 guides to meat buying, storage and methods of cooking and serving. It features the selection of meat, with emphasis on choice of cuts for specific purpose and selection by price. It describes carefully the storing and serving of fresh, frozen, pre-cooked and canned meats. There is a whole "wonderworld" of hamburger recipes, a complete section giving directions on serving 25 persons or more and another equally complete, on picnic specialties. Procedures are easy to follow. Clear, fine photographs show details of cooking methods, of special procedures and displays of cooked meat dishes at their best.

Information is included on the number of servings to expect, cooking time and temperature as well as definite measures for each ingredient included in a recipe. The list of ingredients are set in larger type and each recipe is complete on one page which means there is no necessity to turn the page during cooking time. All recipes are complete and clear. The book is bound in permanent washable cloth binding, is reinforced and stitched at the back so as to open flat.

Included in the table of contents are roasts, casseroles, skillet dishes, pressure cooking methods, meat sauces, soups, barbecues, stuffings, herb cooking, salads, sandwiches, appetizers and garnishes. The foods this book represents will charm and delight you, your family and your guests.

If you can't find the Complete Meat Cookbook, Bailey and McLean, at your book dealers, order one from Copp, Clark Co. Ltd., Toronto. The price, about \$5.95.—Lillian Vigrass. ✓

Story for Young People

UNUSUAL summer adventures of Janet Atkinson and her younger brother Fraser is the theme of *Stormy Summer* by Lyn Harrington. The author is well known for numerous fine articles on Canada and Canadians. The Georgian Bay area is the locale for this teen-age story.

Mr. Atkinson, owner of the tug Susie Q, suffers an accident which sends him to hospital for the summer. Janet and Fraser decide to take over his work of operating the Susie Q as a floating general store for summer residents on the Bay. Their adventures include battling storms, a stowaway, meeting an archeological party, capturing thieves and trying to please over-bearing Mrs. Phudd, one of their customers. Mrs. Harrington skilfully includes some interesting local history concerning the old Jesuit Fort Ste. Marie and Champlain's travels. There is a rather silly comparison between their cousin nine-year-old Joey as a helper on the Susie Q and Barney, a fourth-year university student.

Stormy Summer is a pleasant and entertaining story, not too exciting, nor too convincing.—A.T. (Thomas Nelson and Sons, publishers.) ✓

January Sewing

No. 1882—For school or play, shirt and slacks are the perfect team. Shirt has sturdy welt seams, button cuffs and comfortable turn-back collar. Trousers feature two front pleats, side pockets, regulation fly, belt loops. Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. Size 5 shirt requires $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards, slacks $1\frac{3}{4}$ yards, short pants $1\frac{1}{8}$ yards (36-inch material). Price 35 cents.

No. 4454—A charming hat, coat and leggings set for Sunday best. Coat features envelope pockets, pointed collar, flare back and popular raglan sleeves for easy sewing and comfortable fit. Leggings have sewn-in elastic cuffs for extra warmth. Sizes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Size 3 requires $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 1823—Gay appliques highlight this jumper or circle skirt. Ideal for every day or with pretty blouse or sweater for party wear. Use felt, wool or corduroy for quick sewing. Sizes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Size 3 requires $\frac{3}{4}$ yard 54-inch material for skirt. Price 35 cents.

No. 1784—Here is a lovely one-piece dress for the school miss. Slim bodice has short sleeves, button-back and small collar with front tab fastening. Four-gore skirt shows front darts for slim waisted look. Dress adaptable for the chubby girl. Sizes 7, 8, 10, 12, 14. Size 10 requires $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards 36-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 1886—For the shorter woman a comfortable, action-free dress with smart slim lines. Features popular bias under-arm inset, rounded neckline, front extension panel, side pockets with button tabs. Scarf at neckline adds smart touch. Sizes $12\frac{1}{2}$, $14\frac{1}{2}$, $16\frac{1}{2}$, $18\frac{1}{2}$, $20\frac{1}{2}$, $22\frac{1}{2}$. Size $16\frac{1}{2}$ requires $3\frac{1}{8}$ yards 36-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 1887—These mix 'n' match separates are at home in the classroom, office or your own living room. Button-front blouse can be made sleeveless, with three-quarter length or short sleeves. Skirt shows soft, unpressed pleats. Cummerbund and fringed scarf contribute important accessory note. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18. Size 14 blouse requires 2 yards, skirt 3 yards (36-inch material). Price 50 cents.

No. 1806—Ready for relaxing in this robe or bed jacket. Dress-length housecoat made with raglan sleeves, round collar, patch pockets and button front. Bed jacket features stylish mandarin collar. Either robe or jacket makes up quickly in corduroy or quilted fabric. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18. Size 14 robe requires $4\frac{1}{8}$ yards; jacket $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards (36-inch material). Price 50 cents.

Patterns are printed with instructions in English, French and German.

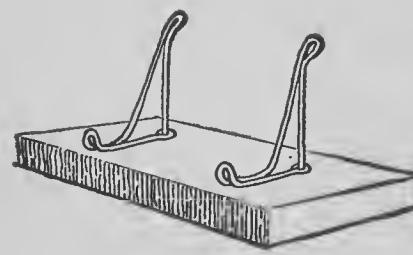
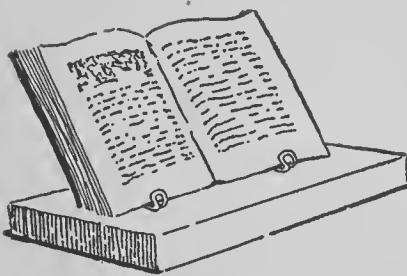
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Write name and address clearly.

Order Simplicity Patterns from The Country Guide Pattern Service, Winnipeg 2, Man., or direct from your local dealer.

The Country Boy and Girl



HAPPY NEW YEAR! Like a field of freshly fallen snow the new year spreads before us. Let's make a good beginning for 1957 by asking ourselves some questions. Do we play happily with our brothers, sisters and friends? Do we give Mother and Dad as much help as we should? How do we tackle our school-work? Each one of us knows the right answers to those questions.

During cold weather you might like to make this handy book rest. It has many uses—to hold mother's cookbook and keep it clean while she is baking; for people who like to read a book and knit at the same time, for someone who wants to read in bed. You need a piece of wood six inches wide, twelve inches long and one inch thick—a sturdy piece of wood is needed so that the book will balance well. First, carefully sandpaper all the surfaces of the board. Then draw a pencil line lengthwise through the center of the board and on it mark two points about six inches apart and an equal distance from the ends of the board. Now, make a small hole with a nail at each of these two points, then screw the two wire coat hooks into these holes, as shown. Finish the book rest by varnishing the board with wood stain or painting with a brightly colored enamel. If you put a screw-eye on one side of the board it can be hung up when not in use.

Ann Sankey

The Ill Wind

by MARY GRANNAN

THE sky began to darken just about noon. By two o'clock the storm was at its height. The wind was blowing and the snow was so thick, one couldn't see his hand before him. Danny said, "I'm sure I could make my way to the bus station, and besides Grandmother is expecting me."

"Not any more," said Mrs. Hay. "I thought I'd better call her before the lines were blown down. Danny, you couldn't make your way to the bus station. This is one of the worst storms I have ever seen."

Danny pounded his fists on the window sill. "Oh, oh, oh," he said. "I've been counting the days when I could ride on the bus all alone, and I know grandmother has a present for me, too." He looked out through the snow-covered windows, angrily. "You old storm, you," he half sobbed. "You've stopped all my fun."

His mother laughed. "You're wasting your breath, Danny," she said. "And it's not so bad here, is it?"

"I don't mean that, Mum. But you know how it is. I was looking forward to my trip, now I have nothing."

"It's an ill wind that blows nobody good," said his mother, as she went to the kitchen to mix a cake. Danny followed her. He didn't understand what his mother had said, and looked so puzzled that his mother sat down to explain. "It's an old saying, Danny," she said. "It means that there's always a little good in everything. No matter how bad a situation is, it brings good to someone."

"But what good could that big storm bring to anyone?" asked Danny. "It's not going to bring any good to me."

"One never knows," said Mrs. Hay.

Danny could see that the subject was closed as far as his mother was concerned. He went back to the living room and complained bitterly to the storm. "You old meanie! You're an ill

wind that's not going to bring me any good."

By four o'clock, the village of Jordan Junction was knee deep with snow. Everything was at a standstill. People who passed by were going very slowly, their heads buried in their collars. "I wonder if the train got in," said Mrs. Hay, "I think I'll call your father."

But before she reached the hall, the telephone rang. It was Mr. Hay. He was the station agent and he had news. "The train limped in an hour late, honey," he said. "But now it's marooned. It's the same all along the line. But we've a bit of a problem here at Jordan Junction. We want to house the train passengers for the night. The hotel can take 60 people. We've been calling up the neighbors, and they're all very good about it. Do you think we could let someone have the cot in the living room?"

"Of course," said Mrs. Hay. "Bring someone along when you come, dear. I'll set an extra place at the table."

The prospects of a stranger in the house was exciting to Danny. He took his place at the window again, but snow was now blocking his view. He had to go upstairs in order to see the street. He wondered as he watched just what kind of a person his father would bring home. It would be nice if he found some little boy like himself, who was travelling. But when his father rounded the corner, he was plodding beside an old man, who was carrying a strange looking bag.

Danny ran downstairs, "They're coming, Mum. And it's not a little boy. I was hoping the storm would bring me a little boy, but it's an old man. That storm has just made up its mind that I'm not going to have any fun." Danny started back upstairs.

"Aren't you going to wait and welcome our guest, Danny?" his mother asked.

"No, Mum," said Danny. "If it's all the same to you, I'll just go upstairs and look at my books."

"As you like," said his mother.

A few minutes later, two weary snow-covered men arrived on the back porch. Mrs. Hay opened the door and handed her husband a broom.

Once cleaned of snow, the men stepped into the kitchen. "This is Mr. Salem, Honey," said Mr. Hay, "but he's better known as Kinko."

Mrs. Hay gasped, as she extended her hand. "Not the famous clown?" she said. She looked at the odd looking bag, which the man had set on a chair. "Then this must be Fritzie."

The old man was very pleased that Mrs. Hay had immediately recognized his name. "But even in so small a place as Jordan Junction," she said, "we've heard of the great Kinko and his performing dog. We're very proud to have you," she added.

"When I heard he was on the train," said Mr. Hay, "I put in a special bid to have him for the night. I knew Danny would be thrilled to meet a great clown. Where is Danny?"

Mrs. Hay laughed. "Upstairs, berating the storm," she said. "He's been complaining that the storm had taken out its spite on him. He had hoped you'd bring a little boy from the train, and when he saw you hadn't, he went upstairs. Let him stay there for awhile. But in the meantime, we should get Fritzie out of confinement."

Kinko nodded. He opened the bag, and out jumped a beautiful white poodle. "Say how-do-you-do to the kind lady, Fritzie," said the old clown.

Fritzie went up on her hind legs, stuck out a forepaw and barked four sharp little barks. Mrs. Hay laughed. "It sounds like 'how-do-you-do'."

"It's intended to do just that," said her husband. "Fritzie is trained to speak with the same number of barks as there are words in a greeting."

Danny heard the little dog's greeting, and came tumbling down the stairs. He looked at the poodle and the poodle looked at him and they were friends. Mrs. Hay introduced her son to the old man. Danny's eyes widened. "A clown, a real circus clown and his dog in our house! Oh, I just can't believe it. Isn't it wonderful?"

It was more wonderful after dinner, when Kinko had Fritzie perform for them. Danny repeated, "I just can't believe it! But Kinko, how did you happen to be on the train that stopped at Jordan Junction?"

"I am on my way to join Ladoni Brothers' Circus in the city," he said. "I'll be late now. The storm has held me up."

"I'm glad," laughed Danny. "The storm brought you to me." Danny looked at his mother. "I understand now, Mum, 't's an ill wind that blows nobody good!"

Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 59 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



ANYONE who has composed pictures learns early that the pattern or underlying design is the first step and probably the most important one in producing a striking picture. Usually it is not readily evident in the finished picture except to the eye trained to look for it, but it is there nevertheless.

This eye for pattern, for feeling and design, is something you can greatly develop through practice. If you study almost any of the world's great paintings you will see (regardless of what the subject of the painting is) that the darks and lights are distributed in such a way as to form a varied and interesting pattern.

Now as you walk in the woods, you will see in the scenes before you an infinite number of possible patterns

or designs. You could not possibly draw everything you see in the landscape, but if you look hard and long you may see that some particular parts of it seem to form an attractive design. If you see this, then make a drawing of only those things that seem to belong in this design. In the accompanying sketch the mossy rock and the trees made a pattern that pleased me. Everything else, bushes, stumps, etc., that appeared in the scene were left out. You cannot always be sure exactly why a certain landscape pleases you more than another but if you make a practice of looking for a design in every landscape you sketch, your work cannot help but gain in force. (Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors series now available in book form. Order from The Country Guide, Winnipeg. Price postpaid \$1.00.)

Has Farming Turned a Corner?

Continued from page 9

Columbia it was reported that 70 per cent of the good, grass-fed cattle of good conformation produced in the province cannot be sold on the Vancouver market. In Manitoba, in 1955, 48 per cent of net farm production was from field crops and 46.5 per cent from livestock and poultry. Cash crops are developing and now include around 23,000 acres of sugar beets, 25,000 acres of sunflowers, an equal acreage of rape seed, 3,000 acres of soybeans and 21,000 acres of field peas, along with a two per cent annual increase in livestock.

The need for improved farm credit was also mentioned frequently. W. J. Parker, president of Manitoba Pool Elevators complained very strongly about the effect on agriculture of the anti-inflationary action taken by the Bank of Canada, when farmers had not in any way contributed to the present inflationary trend. Increased interest rates had already cost the western farmers an additional 3.5 million dollars, plus a loss of four cents per bushel on exported grain, because of the premium of more than four cents on the Canadian dollar. It was necessary, also, to increase the amount that farmers could borrow from the Canadian Farm Loan Board, to \$30,000 or more.

A BROAD, comprehensive presentation was made by Dr. H. H. Hannam on behalf of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. On the whole, said the C.F.A., farm prices in 1956 have been six per cent lower than in 1949, but the cost of goods and services that the farmer buys have increased by 20 per cent. "This means, in turn," the statement said, "that the farmers' unfavorable price position is caused more by the extraordinary increase in costs, than by the fall in farm price levels. Farm difficulties, therefore, are basically a result of the fact that not only in Canada, but in the whole of the western world, agriculture has been outstandingly successful in increasing productivity and achieving the expansion of production needed to meet post-war food shortages. This increased production represented one of our most urgent post-war needs. The expansion, however, finally outstripped effective market demand for food and agricultural products, both at home and abroad. Coupled with this, the world has experienced a lagging behind of farm products, in the otherwise notable post-war expansion of trade."

Similarly, significant changes in the farm labor force were noted: a decline of 24 per cent in the number of farms, to 531,000; a drop of 37 per cent in the total farm labor force; a decline of 60 per cent in the number of unpaid family workers; and a decline of 32 per cent in the number of paid laborers on farms, all between 1946 and 1956. With respect to these changes, the C.F.A. said:

"While the rate of decline in the labor force throughout this ten-year period was fairly constant, the causes of the decline in the first five years were quite different from those operating in the second. The first five years

were years of relative prosperity for agriculture, and the drop in the labor force was primarily a result of rapid mechanization, with its resulting lowered labor requirements. On the other hand, from 1951 to 1956, the impact of mechanization was much less, and its effects on the labor force were replaced by the decline in farm returns, which greatly increased the attractiveness of non-farm occupations and prolonged the decline in the labor force. Actually, in spite of these adjustments, total output did not decline, but because of rapidly rising productivity, was maintained with little change."

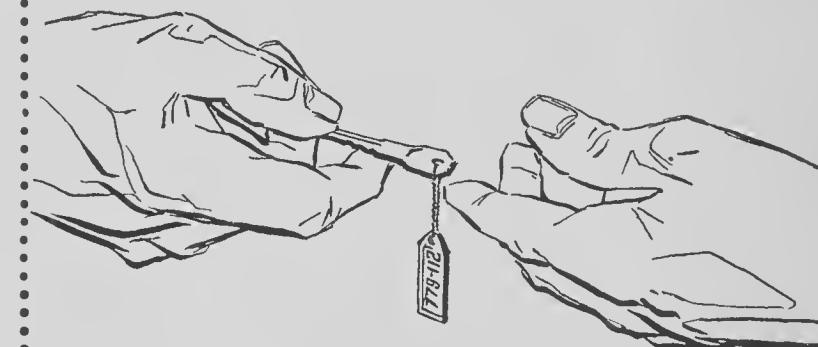
The Federation saw no reason to think that there would be a rapid improvement in the farm picture. On the basis of present policy, it concluded that the farmers' position will remain below parity for some time yet. Figures based on the 1925-29 period equalling parity, or 100, show that the farmer of 1956 with a parity index of 84, is in the same parity position as in 1939 when the parity index was exactly the same. Since 1948, when the parity index figure reached 118, the relationship between farm prices and farm costs has been gradually deteriorating.

A further paragraph in the C.F.A. brief is of importance: "One matter which has an important bearing on farm income is the steadily increasing size of marketing margins for food products. Not only have margins increased, but the share of the consumers' dollar that goes for distribution costs has also risen, while the farmers' share has fallen. These higher costs for food distribution are very serious. Not only do they add to the instability of prices of farm products at the producer level, but they prevent the demand for food from increasing as it should, in line with rising consumer purchasing power. The C.F.A. has recommended in the past that federal research into this field be greatly increased, and up-to-date results published."

The Federation presentation also included discussions of farm credit, livestock marketing, dairying, poultry and eggs, and conservation, including a particular reference to tariffs on dairy products, all of them matters which were several times referred to by other speakers, who included seven provincial ministers of agriculture and deputies from all of the provinces. The representation of the Inter-Provincial Farm Union was presented in five separate briefs dealing with specific matters such as grain, hogs, other livestock and potatoes. These included at least a score of specific recommendations intended for the attention of governments. Because the Conference makes no specific recommendations and passes no resolutions, the young men who so ably represented the Farm Union Council at Ottawa must, of necessity, rest their faith in Mr. Gardiner, or, as an alternative, fall back on the words of George Meredith, that "He who rises from prayer a better man, his prayer is answered."

(The material on pages 10 and 11 summarizes most of the reports presented to the Conference, with respect to farm commodities and conditions affecting agriculture at the present time. A further article on page 12 analyzes the outlook for Canadian agriculture in broader terms.)

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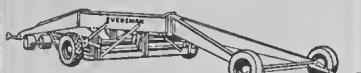
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Looking Ahead Through 1957

Continued from page 11

Other Vegetables. The demand for fresh vegetables this year is expected to remain strong, and an increase in production is expected as new production areas are developed. Canada normally exports from 2.3 million to 2.7 million bushels of turnips annually, and no substantial change is anticipated. A larger crop was harvested last year of this vegetable, as well as of cabbage and carrots. The onion crop was smaller.

PROCESSED FOODS. **Canned.** A smaller pack of canned fruits and vegetables is expected than in 1955 when the total packed was 753 million pounds. Stocks were lighter at the beginning of this crop year, but higher imports are expected, which will develop adequate supplies. The acreage contracted for 1957 of tomato, beans, peas and corn for processing, will probably be larger than for 1956; also, prices for all these products are higher than last year and are expected to continue so. During the past ten years, the pack of frozen fruit and vegetables has expanded rapidly in Canada. It was 16.4 million pounds in 1946 and 56.2 million pounds in 1955. Imports likewise increased from 1.5 million pounds in 1946 to 20.4 million pounds in 1955. The bulk of these processed foods consists of peas, strawberries, raspberries, cherries, corn and beans, with frozen French-fried potatoes gaining in importance.

SPECIAL CROPS. **Flax Seed.** This crop is expected to encounter stronger competition in export markets from substantially higher supplies from other sources. The result will probably be higher carry-over stocks and moderately to considerably lower prices. World production will probably exceed 1955-56 output by about 40 per cent, to total 148.2 million bushels (100.2 million bushels in the period 1950-51 to 1954-55). The 1956 Canadian acreage was 71 per cent higher than in 1955, at 3.1 million acres, and production is estimated at a record high of 35 million bushels, or 77 per cent above last year's large crop. Supply for the current crop year is at 37.3 million bushels, as compared with 22 million bushels a year ago, while domestic utilization may total 10 million bushels. In the United States, flax seed supply is 56.1 million bushels, or 24.1 million bushels more than 1955-56 domestic utilization. In Argentina, production is forecast at 25 million bushels, but stocks of both old crop flax seed and linseed oil are very low. Domestic utilization, however, will still leave 19 million to 20 million bushels for export, of linseed oil, or meal. Canadian exports were 12.4 million bushels, which was almost double the previous year. This year, Canadian flax will meet with stronger competition, and the price of \$3 per bushel, No. 1 C.W. in store, Lakehead, which prevailed early in November, may decline moderately.

Soybeans. About 4.9 million bushels or 13 per cent less than in 1955 were produced last year. Acreage had increased to 228,000 acres from 214,000 the year before. Total imports amount to 8.3 million bushels and the quantity

imported this year is expected to be larger owing to a continuation of the upward trend in domestic crushing in Canada. Export to the United States is likely to continue from Canada, owing to a five per cent tariff advantage over non-Commonwealth soybeans. The U.S. crop is 27 per cent higher than the record high crop of 1955. Canadian prices will be largely determined by U.S. prices, which will probably average around the national average farm support level of \$2.15 per bushel.

Sunflowers. Sunflower seed production in Manitoba amounted to 12.5 million pounds, or nearly two million pounds below the previous year. Four-fifths of the crop is normally sold for crushing at Altona, and the balance—large-seeded Mennonite—to the confectionery trade. Meal prices are likely to be lower than vegetable oil prices, and over-all prices about the same as last year, but not higher.

Grain Corn. The 1956 crop is estimated at 23.9 million bushels, which reflects a corn acreage decline for the first time since 1947. Canadian corn prices are expected to remain fairly stable through the current season, owing to a record 4,115.9-million-bushel corn supply in the U.S., and the stabilizing influence of U.S. pork prices.

Field Beans. A minimum price of \$6.25 per hundred, basis f.o.b. dealer, two per cent damage, 18 per cent moisture, delivered in 1956, and \$6.40 per hundred between January 1 and August 14, 1957, has been negotiated under the Ontario Bean Growers' Marketing Scheme. The minimum price is ten cents higher than last year and because the Commodity Credit Corporation in the U.S. has no carry-over stocks, for the first time in several years, it is expected that prices will be strengthened in 1956-57.

Field Peas. Supplies, including a crop estimated at 9,805 bushels, are expected to be about 250,000 bushels more than domestic requirements. Customary export markets are British Guiana, the British West Indies and northwestern Europe. U.S. prices may average lower than last year, and although the European crop was heavily damaged by rain, quite a large carry-over of whole crop peas is reported from Europe.

Sugar Beets. Eastern Canada produced 41 per cent fewer beets, and western Canada nine per cent more than in 1955, western Canada production accounting for 77 per cent of the Canadian total, as compared with 57 per cent for the 1949-53 period. The yield should supply about 15 per cent of total consumption, or 230 million pounds of sugar. World prices are expected to remain close to 3.25 cents per pound, which is the bottom of the price range under the International Sugar Agreement.

SEEDS. **Registered and Certified.** Slightly over eight million bushels of pedigreed wheat was produced in 1956, together with 4.5 million bushels of oats, 2.2 million bushels of barley, 712,000 bushels of oil flax, and 324,000 bushels of hybrid corn, and smaller quantities of beans, peas and soybeans. About one-third of the wheat was of the new variety Selkirk; and Rodney and Garry oats accounted for about two-thirds of the oats total. The new malting barley variety, Park-

land, was increased under contract last year, and about 200,000 bushels of seed produced, for nearly all of which, orders had been received by November 16.

Forage Seeds. The 1956 alfalfa seed crop was the smallest on record. Estimated production of all of the principal forage crop seeds is less than in 1955. Exceptions are meadow fescue and sweet clover. Of the former, a record crop was produced, and of the latter, much the largest crop in recent years. Supplies of the principal hay and pasture seeds are expected, however, to be sufficient to meet domestic requirements, with the exception of alfalfa. Seed is available, however, from the United States, and seed of the double-cut red clover will also be available from the U.S. and the U.K. Prices have been stimulated on world markets because of the smaller crop of many forage seeds in Canada, U.S. and western Europe. The prices of nearly all such seeds have practically doubled over a year ago, except sweet clover. A few, such as timothy, brome grass and creeping red fescue had risen to three times the 1955 level.

Vegetable and Root Seeds. British Columbia is the principal vegetable seed-producing area, but total production was below 1955 for most kinds. Most of the sugar beet stocklings in B.C. were winter killed, and little crop was harvested. Swede and mangold seed was confined to the Maritimes and the smallest in years. Canada normally does not produce enough to fill domestic needs, but the necessary supplies are expected to be available from the United States and Europe.

MISCELLANEOUS. **Tobacco.** The 1956 tobacco crop (all types) is estimated at 151.5 million pounds re-dried weight, a 24.5 per cent increase over 1955. Flue-cured tobacco, at 139 million pounds, was up 31 per cent, and Burley tobacco, at 6.7 million pounds, was up seven per cent. Imports are not expected to exceed two million pounds and total available supplies, including carry-over, are around 311.5 million pounds re-dried weight. Consumption is expected to remain high, and utilization of all types of tobacco by manufacturers is expected to increase 6.4 million pounds to 118 million pounds. The United Kingdom is the major export market for tobacco and exports may approach 42 million pounds, which, at the end of the year, should leave 151.5 million pounds as carry-over. The current minimum price arranged by the Flue-Cured Tobacco Association of Ontario is the highest minimum average on record, at 45 cents per pound, green weight.

Honey. Total stocks of honey are estimated at 30.7 million pounds, including 4.5 million pounds of carry-over July 1, 1956. Prices have been firm since October and are expected to remain so, with no marketing difficulties anticipated. Canada exports little honey, but lower imports are anticipated this year, because of a smaller crop in the United States. Rising prices have encouraged increased colony numbers in western Canada, but changes in cropping practices in central Canada have brought about declines there.

Labor. Over the last decade, the farm labor force has declined by an

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average of 30,000 persons per year. In 1956, some 54,000 fewer persons were working on farms from January to October than in 1955. Paid workers declined 9,000, to 104,000; own-account workers by 31,000 to 450,000; employers by 5,000 to 67,000; and unpaid family workers by 9,000 to 169,000. A further movement of workers is expected out of agriculture in 1957, but probably not as many as in 1956. Continuing mechani-

zation consumes man-power, but agriculture will continue to require more labor than can be obtained, especially for dairy and livestock farms. The need for organized labor movement within, and between, provinces is expected to be greater than ever, and workers from the United States to meet seasonal shortages will continue to be needed. Steps are being taken to increase the flow of immigrants. ✓

Comfort On the Combine



This is the closed-in combine cab that Jim Cochrane built because he had no idea of leaving the farm because of hay fever. It's a pollen-tight job.

COMBINE operators who suffer from hay fever can take a tip from Jim Cochrane, who farms a few miles east of Grande Prairie, in the Peace River country. Jim has installed an air-conditioned cab on his big, self-propelled machine, to keep dust away and make working conditions more pleasant. By being able to admit warm air into the system, he can also work in light clothing on brisk days when chilling winds move down from the Arctic Circle.

"Hay fever was bad enough," he smiled, "but on cold days I used to sit up there wearing about all the clothes I could carry, and still wasn't comfortable."

Jim farms about 1,000 acres at Kleskun hill with his father Bob Cochrane. Born and raised on this farm, Jim was too fond of the life to give it up for a little thing like hay fever. If he couldn't stand chaff dust, there was only one answer—the chaff dust would have to be controlled. From pieces of scrap metal around the yard, he built an enclosure over the driver's seat of his combine. When dust still got into the cab through cracks and ventilation slits, he decided to go a step further—the cab would have to have its own filtered air system.

An old aircraft engine supercharger, bought to dry grain, but never used for that purpose, appeared to be made to order for the job. Jim mounted it atop the combine, toward the rear, and connected it to his cab with a piece of eight-inch flexible steel tubing. At the intake of the blower, he installed an oil-bath air cleaner to remove the dust particles

from his home-made air-conditioning system.

Came the test, and the gadget worked like a charm. The increased air pressure in the cab forced a steady stream of air out of the cracks and ventilator slits, preventing any dust from getting in. But the system had one weak point; on cold days a built-in "gale" blew an icy blast of air right at the driver. Jim got around this by running an intake pipe from the air cleaner down to where it would pick up the warm air being blown back from the radiator of the combine. The opening can be moved either close to, or away from the warm air stream to suit the needs of the operator. ✓

Substitute For Corn Silage

DELTON MARTIN of Waterloo, Ontario, is looking for a silage substitute for corn. Last year he tried out a crop mixture which has been successful in Pennsylvania. He broadcast one and one-half bushels of soybeans, ten pounds of sorghum and five pounds of sudan grass per acre on June 5, fertilized it with 200 pounds of 4-12-10.

Prof. George Jones of the O.A.C. Field Husbandry Department, inspecting the plot with a group of touring farmers, commented that his department had been comparing corn and the silage sorghums, grown in rows, but not seeded broadcast. In these comparisons corn outyielded the drought-resistant sorghums by at least 25 per cent every time. ✓

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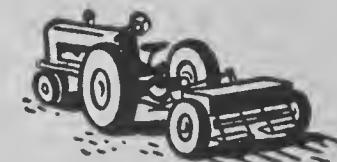
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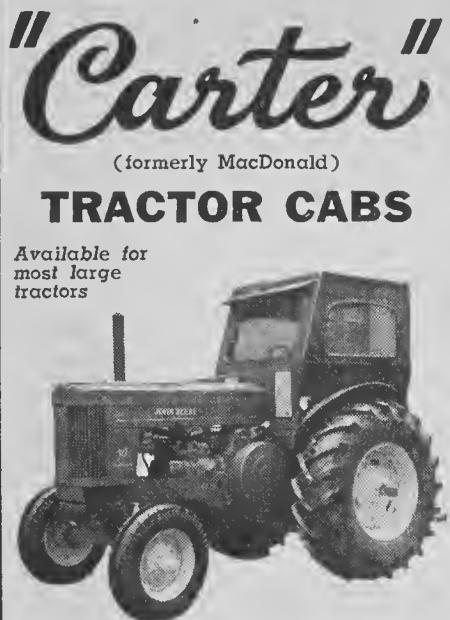
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Recovery in Sight

Continued from page 12

investment was too rapid for maintaining long-term economic stability. They have taken steps to curb temporary over-expansion. These actions will most likely bring about some recessions in business and probably some temporary slackening of employment opportunities. Even though this is not entirely a blessing, it is much to be preferred to an over-expansion that continues without any brakes until the inevitable severe collapse takes place. It is better to have a regulated mild recession, than to have a completely free, uncontrolled speculative boom that ends in a violent bust. The world has had too many of these.

I suggest that, for the first time in history, most governments in the Western world are really trying to avoid the booms and busts of former days. As farmers, we hope they will be successful, because no group of producers should be more interested in reasonable economic stability than agriculture. In the long run, no group suffers more from economic booms and busts than do farmers.

THE trend of prices of farm products was downward in Canada from the middle of 1951 to the middle of 1956. During this period costs of commodities and services used by farmers were practically stationary. The over-all parity index fell to about 84 (1925-29=100). This picture of the farm cost-price squeeze in Canada was repeated in most other countries of the world.

As I have already pointed out, the fall in prices of farm products was chiefly due to the recovery of agriculture from the wartime decline in farm production, more particularly in Europe and the Far East.

Canadian agriculture has made some drastic adjustments as a result of the five-year steady increase in the cost-price squeeze. The most notable has been the shift of workers out of agriculture into industry, the decline in the number of farmers and the increase in the size of farms, or volume of production per farm.

From June, 1951, to June, 1956, the estimated number of farms declined by 11 per cent, the total farm labor force by 19 per cent and the number of unpaid family workers by no less than 39 per cent. As there has been no change in acres of operated farm land, there must have been quite a significant increase in the average size of farm from 1951 to 1956.

This adjustment of Canadian agriculture was partly due to the rapid shift from horses to mechanical power, which started shortly after the war was over, and partly due to an attempt to adjust to shrinking overseas markets for farm products. For the two years 1946 and 1947, we exported about 13 per cent of our farm production other than grains. For the two years 1954 and 1955 the exports of these products had declined to five per cent of production.

Table I (page 48) and Chart I (see page 10), show the estimated net farm income per farm from 1946 in actual dollars, and also in terms of 1956 dollars. By showing the net farm income adjusted to the 1956 cost of living level, the net incomes of each

year are directly comparable in terms of what the net farm income could purchase in each year.

The table shows a steady decline in the number of farms in Canada. The peak in actual net income per farm was reached in 1951. A recovery has taken place since 1954. In terms of real income (last column), the 1956 income per farm was 18 per cent less than the peak level of 1951, but ten per cent better than the average of the first two post-war years 1946 and 1947.

HOW has the non-farm worker fared? We have examined the reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and find that the average labor income of non-farm employees for the years 1946 and 1947 amounted to \$1,556. By 1956, this had increased to \$2,965. In terms of 1956 dollars the 1946-47 average was \$2,258. Thus the real income of the non-farm worker was 31 per cent greater in 1956 than it was in 1946-47, compared with the gain of only ten per cent for the average farmer. In short, what has hurt the farmer is the fact that within recent years he has not shared as much as other groups, in gains from the current high level of economic activity.

This relative inequality in economic gains has not been due to a low level of farm production. Rather, it has been due to an abnormally high level of production. Table II (page 48) and Chart II (page 12) show the physical volume of production per farm in Canada from 1946 to 1956.

With the exception of 1954 a high level of output per farm will be noticed for the years 1951 to 1956. The estimated production per farm for 1956 is a record high level that is 71 per cent higher than the average production for 1946 and 1947. Nevertheless, in spite of this great increase (71 per cent in ten years), the average farm family is only ten per cent better off than ten years ago.

DURING the past few years Canadian farmers have not shared in the prosperity of the country as a whole. For five years agriculture has been making its adjustments to changing market conditions. It would appear that the period of adjustment is about completed. With the exception of wheat, over-all farm production is now more in balance with domestic and foreign demand. For six months the price index of farm products has been creeping up.

The large stocks of wheat throughout the world are being held in strong hands, waiting for the inevitable change from above-normal, to normal or below-normal weather conditions. It is not likely wheat prices will break. Nor is it likely they will move up significantly, until the stocks are whitened down to lower levels.

Provided the world can avoid an international business slump of major proportions, I feel that we can look forward over the next year or so to a slow, but steady, rise in the well-being of Canadian farmers. Farmers should be just as interested as business and labor in maintaining a stable and high level of economic activity.

WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION PER CAPITA (See paragraph 4, page 12)

	Per Capita Food Production	Per Cent Change	Per Capita Food Production	Per Cent Change
1946/47	85	—	1951/52	97
1947/48	88	+3.5	1952/53	100
1948/49	93	+5.7	1953/54	103
1949/50	94	+1.1	1954/55	102
1950/51	97	+3.2	1955/56	104

TABLE I (with chart, page 10)
NET FARM INCOME PER FARM 1946-1956
(1956, Estimated by C.F.A.)

	Total Net Farm Income (Million)	No. of Farms	Net Income Per Farm	Farm Cost of Living	Real Net Income in 1956 Dollars
1946	\$1,139	674,000	\$1,690	62.2	\$2,717
1947	1,206	659,000	1,830	67.6	2,807
1948	1,682	663,000	2,537	79.6	3,187
1949	1,648	661,000	2,493	84.7	2,943
1950	1,448	627,000	2,309	86.8	2,660
1951	2,154	598,000	3,602	97.1	3,710
1952	1,923	555,000	3,465	102.7	3,874
1953	1,697	545,000	3,114	99.6	3,127
1954	1,189	565,000	2,104	100.0	2,104
1955	1,454	542,000	2,683	99.7	2,691
1956	1,564	515,000	3,037	100.0	3,037

TABLE II (with chart, page 12)
VOLUME OF FARM PRODUCTION PER FARM (1946=100)

	Index of Volume of Production (All Canada)	No. of Farms	Index of Production Per Farm
1946	100.0	100.0	100.0
1947	92.3	97.8	94.3
1948	99.6	98.4	101.2
1949	97.4	98.1	99.3
1950	109.7	93.0	117.9
1951	123.1	88.7	138.8
1952	132.1	82.4	160.3
1953	124.4	80.1	155.3
1954	93.5	83.8	111.6
1955	119.5	80.4	148.6
1956	127.4 (1)	76.4	166.8

(1) Estimated by C.F.A.

Western Herefords On this Ontario Ranch

This farmer believes that a new idea that works is like a round peg in a round hole

EARLY in his farming life, Ralph Garbutt found himself wrong on a couple of strong prejudices. Now, when he sees an idea that looks good, he tries it on his combination beef and dairy farm at Lakefield, on the northern fringe of Ontario's farm area north of Peterborough. Sometimes it pays off, and that philosophy has kept him in business during the recent difficult years on the farm.

For instance, when foot-and-mouth disease broke the cattle market in Canada, and with it, the outlet for his dairy heifers to the United States, he bought a Hereford bull with the idea of getting beefier, easier-feeding calves. This worked well. But it was not a final answer to today's tougher competition in the beef business.

The Holstein blood in his cross-bred calves kept them growing too fast, prevented them finishing up as yearlings, off grass. He decided that he must have calves that could winter through on roughage and a bit of grain, then go onto good pasture and finish in early summer as brandable beef.

So he bought Hereford heifers from Medicine Hat in the fall of 1955, got good ones for about 16 cents a pound, and bred the 40 of them last spring.

The heifers wintered in an open shed, were fed roughage but no grain, and "weren't under cover for more than ten hours all winter." By mid-April, they were nosing over early pasture, getting a few bites before spring growth started. But they were still fat.

In fact, the heifers wintered so well that he had further dreams for the Whitefaces on his farm in the future. "Some day," he speculates, "I might have 100 cows like them."

ONE thing he has always called an investment is the County Soil and Crop Improvement Association tour.

"I can get ideas during those trips to more than pay for their cost." For instance, he saw Kentucky 31 fescue growing, on one tour. He tried an acre of it four years ago, says it is

unbelievable how early that grass starts in spring, and how well it does. Now, he has five more acres seeded as a pure stand, and another 15 seeded in mixture.

Last winter, he tried another trick. Instead of feeding his own home-grown oats, and buying seed in the spring, he bought corn from southwestern Ontario. In addition, he bought in 15 good 600-pound Short-horn calves that were sired by an outstanding bull. They wintered on grass silage, hay, corn-and-cob meal and molasses, and by the end of April, were ready for market at 900 pounds.

Like most steers in 1955, they cost too much to allow him an adequate profit. However, he tried another idea, —again one picked up on a Crop Improvement tour—, of running pigs behind steers, and calls it the cheapest way to make pork he has found yet.

Next to entertaining or impressive talk, a thoroughgoing silence manages to intrigue most people.—Mrs. J. Borden Harriman.

Now he plans to try growing grain corn on his own farm. He is convinced that new corn hybrids make it possible to succeed with this crop, even in his area.

His over-all program runs like this. He milks about 50 cows regularly, on his 600 acres, and veals some of the calves, nursing about two of them at a time on some of the poorer cows. In winter, he separates milk and ships the cream. In summer, the cheese factory takes the milk. Since his total herd, including beef cattle runs to over 200 head, he rents another 600 acres of range for summer grazing.

"Why milk cows in an area remote from a fluid milk market?" Ralph Garbutt has this answer:

"I worked for 18 years on the farm with never a let-up except for the deer hunt each fall. Then my health began to crack under the strain. Fortunately, that dairy herd had justified paying good hired men. So when I took my first holiday last winter, a trip to Florida, I left the farm without any worries." V



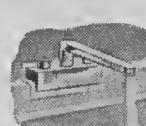
[Guide photo]
These western-bred Herefords represent only one of the many ideas picked up by Ralph Garbutt. Some day, he says, he might have a hundred like these.



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THE Country GUIDE

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THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM AND HOME
Serving Canadian Farmers Since 1882

VOL. LXXVI WINNIPEG, JANUARY, 1957 No. 1

A Look Ahead

ELSEWHERE in this issue, on pages 9 to 12, an attempt has been made to bring together, in shorter form, the large amount of material which was presented to the Federal-Provincial Agricultural Conference held in Ottawa last month. Prepared by carefully chosen groups of qualified persons in the service of the Federal Government, the reports represented a great deal of hard, conscientious work over a period of several weeks prior to the Conference. We feel sure that our readers will welcome a word of appreciation here, to these men and women, on their behalf.

These reports were not of such a nature as to tell farmers what they should produce in 1957; nor should it be forgotten that they were never intended to do so. They are designed to produce a maximum of helpful information, which, after study and careful consideration by the individual farm operator, will be of help to him in deciding for himself what he should produce.

Looking ahead, it is not difficult to reach the conclusion that, weather permitting, 1957 should be a little better year for agriculture than 1956; and that barring a world, or otherwise general, depression, agriculture should make significant progress during the next two or three years. The future of the beef-cattle industry seems relatively bright. Dairymen, who seldom permit themselves to appear happy, are nevertheless not as jittery on the whole as they were only a short time ago. The fluid milk market is steadily growing; the cheese situation is evidently well handled; the concentrated milk situation is fairly satisfactory. Butter, the catch-all of the industry, is still characterized by a surplus condition which rests in the lap of the Agricultural Prices Support Board. The disturbing element in the hog situation is the serious further drop in the percentage of Grade A hogs, especially in Alberta. In some areas of the province, it begins to appear as though any animal which has four legs, grunts, eats surplus grain and brings in cash money is considered desirable. The poultry industry has some troubles, part of which are chronic, and others center around recent rapid changes that the industry has not been able to quickly assimilate. Under such conditions, prices for poultry meat are likely to fluctuate, and profits even more so.

It would be most unfortunate if the fruit growers do not have a better year in 1957 than in 1956. Short crops bring higher prices, of course, but they seldom bring satisfactory net returns. Undoubtedly the most difficult problem confronting the Canadian farmer is the world grain surplus, especially wheat. Good crops, though storable for long periods, are much less satisfactory stored in granaries and open bins, than even a fair equivalent in cash. Time is the only sure cure, but how much time is the question which no one seems able to answer. V

Another Year

ANOTHER year, this one No. 1956, has retired from the scene. Old, and worn out with much feverish activity and a great deal of disappointment, it has left us forever, its only memorial a page, or a paragraph, in the history books. Cumbered with the thought of many unfinished tasks, it is now but a memory, its departure marked only by the glad welcomes accorded to its successor. Yet the years, though gone, cannot be destroyed. If time is of infinity, the years are its building blocks; and for us, who are finite, they are the counters in the long record of man's history and achievements.

If all of the years do not stand out in our minds with equal distinctness, it is not because fateful events were not occurring in various parts of the world, which contributed in some way to man's advance, and altered in some way the course of history. We who live in the highest type of civilization which the world has ever known, are the product of all the years gone before. There is a direct relationship between the record volume of agricultural production in Canada in 1956 and the fact that, thousands of years ago, small groups of early man first found that they could produce enough food for themselves, even if one man did not hunt or till the fields, but stayed in the village and did nothing else but make some one thing which they all needed. A gradual increase in the security of food supply led eventually to our towns and cities and these in turn have been responsible for the growing scale of communication between people of different areas and countries, including world trade. Also, during the last three or four centuries in particular, large urban centers have been increasingly responsible for increased efficiency in the production of food stuffs, because of the large numbers of people in these urban centers who must be assured of an ample food supply.

All of our great paintings and works of art, our great music, our books of prose or poetry, which an increasing number of people have come to treasure from the past, owe their being to the years that were already gone when they came to life. It is likewise with our democratic type of government, our schools and universities, our churches and cathedrals. Not a single treasure in our society would have been in any way possible, without the long years of growth and development and accumulated experience that are now the heritage of mankind.

What is true of our cultural heritage is true of the variety and efficiency of our occupational efforts. Our great factories, transportation systems, highways, financial and commercial institutions, owe their very being to the past. No one perhaps owes more to the past than does the farmer, who, were it not for the forgotten years, might be still tilling his fields with a pair of oxen and a forked stick.

We live in the present, it is true, but to live well in the present we must not forget the past. Tennyson put wise words into the mouth of Ulysses, when he wrote:

*I am a part of all that I have met;
Yet all experience is an arch wherethrough
Gleams that untravelled world whose margin
fades
Forever and forever when I move.* V

The Canadian Economy

IN addition to the Christmas and New Year celebrations, recent weeks have witnessed the annual head-scratching of economists, top industrialists, bank presidents, and federal cabinet ministers, who jointly and severally bear heavy responsibility for the conduct of the national economy. None, in all likelihood, fancies himself as a clairvoyant, but all are men of experience, and hold their present positions because of this, coupled with the measure of judgment they are held to possess.

Although the joint product of this year-end reflection might lack tunefulness if put to music, it is popular in terms of economics. It seems to be agreed that 1957 will see a continuance of Canadian industrial expansion, although the pace of the last two years may slacken off to some extent. For the first time in history, 1956 witnessed the distribution of \$700 million in dividends, or 124 per cent more than the pre-war top achieved in 1938. Annual capital investment is projected as \$6 billion or more for 1957, which compares with an \$8 billion figure for last year, that was not expected to be reached owing to materials and labor scarcity. The number of new houses started this year is expected to be down, influenced by the higher cost of money to the builders. Some base metals may experience a slower market, and textiles, rubber

and clothing, which depend primarily on the domestic market, may continue to find business conditions less promising than those businesses dealing with newsprint, metals, minerals and chemicals.

Consumer spending power is likely to continue at a very high level, which, in view of the approximately \$2.5 billion of consumer credit outstanding, would appear to promise a continuation of the credit restrictions imposed through the medium of higher interest rates, by the Bank of Canada. This is all the more likely, in view of the fact that the cost of living index figure rose late in 1956 to an all-time high, in November, of 120.3, to mark an increase of 3.4 points during the previous 12 months.

So good have Canadians had it in recent years because of the industrial and trade expansion which we have enjoyed, that the danger of inflation became very real. As stated by the Minister of Finance, Hon. Walter Harris, not long ago, "business, individual and public bodies are trying to borrow at a rate which is outrunning the rate of saving by the rest of the community."

Who would normally think—unless he could remember back as far as 1929—that living in a community of nearly four million families, a large part of whom were enjoying unprecedented prosperity, would of itself carry the promise of economic headaches. There is no promise yet that the boom and bust cycle of earlier years is entirely behind us. So far, this is one of the ailments to which national economies are subject and for which no reliable cure has been discovered. V

Agricultural Extension

ORGANIZED agricultural extension as we know it today will be 50 years old next spring. In 1907, Dr. C. C. James, then Deputy Minister of Agriculture in Ontario, engaged six brand-new graduates from the Ontario Agricultural College, and sent them out to six county areas. They carried few instructions, other than to help the farmers of the area to get any new information that would be useful to them.

Today, a system of agricultural representatives exists all the way across Canada, from coast to coast, and in recent years has been supplemented by a number of specialists in most provinces. Without exception, these are government services, and almost without exception their headquarters are in the provincial departments of agriculture. In far too many instances, a very substantial part of the agricultural representative's time is taken up with regulatory duties, which involve field work connected with agricultural legislation. This work, together with farm labor administration and 4-H club work, cuts down the actual time which an agricultural representative can devote to extension, by from 40 to 75 per cent, according to the testimony of some representatives.

In a recently issued policy statement, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture has stated its belief that these agricultural extension services should be centered in our provincial universities and agricultural colleges. With this contention, The Country Guide is in agreement. Recognizing that some time will elapse before a 50-year-old custom will yield to the present day needs of agriculture, the Federation believes that as an immediate step, the extension specialists now in Departments of Agriculture should be transferred soon to the appropriate departments of faculties and colleges of agriculture. With this conclusion, we also agree.

There are, in this, as in most other matters, two sides to the question. Space does not permit an elaboration of either, here. Our conviction, arising out of observation and experience extending over a period of 45 years, is that the arguments in favor of the transfer outweigh those for the continuation of the present system, by a substantial margin. We hope that the member organizations of the Federation will seriously consider and actively interest themselves in this problem, which is of vital importance to agriculture and will become more so in the future. V